

Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Volume XX, Issue No. 169

SATURDAY JULY 17, 2010

50¢

Visit us online @
www.saipantribune.com

OPINION METER

This week's poll:

Have you attended or do you plan to attend the public hearings being held to solicit opinions on the Interior Department's recommendation to grant status to long-term alien workers?

Let your voice be heard!
Go to
www.saipantribune.com
to cast your vote.

INSIDE



Back on Island

CNMI students who participated in a weeklong thespian festival have returned to Saipan.

LOCAL...Page 2



Gusher Plugged

After 85 days and up to 184 million gallons, the oil has stopped. For now.

NATION...Page 10



Convicted!

A couple was convicted Thursday of trying to extort \$680,000 from actor John Stamos.

LIFE & STYLE...Page 21

Cepeda resigns as NMC regent

» Board postpones election of new chairperson

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Charles Cepeda, member and former chairman of the Northern Marianas College board of regents, resigned from his position yesterday.

Cepeda was only reported as absent in yesterday's regular board meeting, along with fellow member Maria Malua Peter.

In his resignation letter to Gov. Benigno R. Fitial, received at 1pm yesterday, Cepeda cited personal reasons for his decision.

"As much as I am passionate in assisting the Northern Mari-

anas College and our students, my expanded work responsibility in Palau and Majuro prevents me from participating in board meetings as scheduled. Effective today, I am tendering my resignation as member of the board for NMC," Cepeda told the governor.

Cepeda is the general manager

See CEPEDA on Page 4



Cop, woman nabbed for alleged 'ice' dealing

» Officer had 2009 arrest for allegedly using a patrol car as getaway vehicle for burglars

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Authorities arrested Thursday a suspected dealer of methamphetamine or "ice" and a police officer who allegedly served as her driver while she peddled illegal drugs.

Belinda Omengkar and Police Officer I Flor-

encio Richards were brought to the Superior Court yesterday on charges of possession of a controlled substance and

RELATED NEWS

Tinian cop pleads guilty to 'ice' distribution. Page 4

trafficking of a controlled substance.

Richards, 32, assigned to the Patrol section, was also arrested in July 2009 for allegedly using a patrol car as a getaway vehicle for a group of burglars. That case was later

See COP on Page 4



Richards



Omengkar

PROCLAMATION SIGNING

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

Acting Gov. Eloy S. Inos and Chief Justice Miguel S. Demapan join other officials for a group photo after signing a proclamation declaring July 18 to 24 Probation, Parole and Community Supervision Week at the Guma Hustisia in Susupe yesterday morning. Inset, Inos and Demapan prepare to sign the proclamation.

See story on Page 4.

GAO cites internal control weaknesses in \$400M Interior aid to CNMI, other areas

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The U.S. Government Accountability Office has cited long standing concerns with insular area governments' internal control weaknesses, which increase the

risk of fraud, waste, abuse and mismanagement, at a Thursday congressional oversight hearing on the effectiveness of the technical assistance program in the CNMI, Guam and other insular areas.

GAO is the investigative arm of

See GAO on Page 4

Inos: \$23M in estimated operating deficit in first 9 months. PAGE 3

Tinian cop pleads guilty to 'ice' distribution. PAGE 4

Local

NMI students shine in weeklong Nebraska thespian festival

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The CNMI students who participated in a weeklong thespian festival last month have returned to Saipan with added stage experience under their belts.

Fifteen elementary, junior high, and high school students left Saipan June 19 and took part in the 2010 Thespian Festival from June 21 to 26 at the University of Nebraska—Lincoln.

The student thespians who got back last June 30 were Christine Aninzo, Maria Christine Castro, Miki Nadia Dela Cruz, Ann Mariel Flores, Kevin Jardinero, Amy Liu, Wilden Mangahis, Annabel Manzo, Adeleyah Charlotte Mojica, Jennella Christine Nelmda, Jackilyn Rafols, Matthew Wheat, Downen Jocson, Rochelle Dimapilis, and Rozette Bunao.

The students were accompanied by coaches Harold Easton, Wesley Foster, Jonel Alepuyo, Sibylla Guerrero, Kathy Barjan, Tina Foster, and Allison Walker.

Jane Mack, board member of the Thespians of the Western Pacific Islands, said in an e-mail that all 15 students competed in individual events and received written evaluations and com-



TINA FOSTER

Fifteen CNMI student thespians pose with representatives of the playwriting and publishing company Samuel French after their performance of the play *Pullman Car Hiawathan* by Morton Wilder.

various ballots for 11 events.

Other results were good overall ratings, which also included some “excellent” ratings in a number of the individual assessment categories, said Easton.

The group, which performed the play *Pullman Car Hiawatha* by Morton Wilder, received praise from the representatives of the playwriting and publishing company Samuel French who saw their presentation.

Throughout the festival, the students and coaches saw a lot of plays, including full-length plays like *Urinetown* and *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels* and one-act plays such as *Check Please* and *I Never Saw Another Butterfly*.

The students also learned about new skills and techniques through the workshops that were conducted in the festival, including stage combat, make-up magic, and hip-hop dance choreography.

The junior high school level thespians also had the opportunity to go to college auditions and receive callbacks from various universities.

The coaches also attended workshops intended for them like actor’s toolkit, mime, grant-writing for the arts, student-centered theatre instruction, and stage make-up.

Aside from the workshops and plays, Mack said the CNMI participants also took advantage of their stay in Nebraska by visiting the Natural History Museum and the Nebraska State Capitol and made the most of their stay on the university campus.

ments to help improve their performances in the future.

Mack said some of the students were surprised to hear the same comments and feedback from festival judges to their judges here on Saipan.

“It is a valuable lesson that helps build confidence in our

thespian program in the CNMI,” she said.

According to Easton, eight students had 20 superior ratings in various ballot categories for the team results; superior overall ratings each for Senior Mime and Film categories; and multiple excellent overall ratings on

IT&E launches Coolest Saturdays of Summer promo

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Are you a kid or a teenager looking for ways to beat the summer heat? Worry no more as CNMI’s leading cellular network has cooked up the perfect way to cool down this summer!

In collaboration with Pacific Islands Club and Pepsi, IT&E brings to all youngsters on Saipan the Coolest Saturdays of Summer promotion.

Starting today and every government payday Saturdays until Aug. 28, teens and kids below 18 years old can frolic at the waters of Pacific Islands Club’s Waterpark for a discounted rate of \$18.

The promo fee is inclusive of a free barbecue lunch and water park access from 9am to 6pm.

Youngsters who want to purchase tickets must present a local ID and should be accompanied by an adult.

Nola K. Hix, wireless marketing associate of IT&E, said kids and teens are issued an IT&E wristband and a raffle ticket upon entry to the Coolest Saturdays of Summer promo.

Hix said those who avail of the summer promotion are in for a sweet surprise as there are tons of exciting prizes to be given away in the raffle draw on each of the four Saturdays.

One pre-paid cellphone & a digital camera will be raffled off today. Other rewards include movie passes, water park passes, pre-paid cards, IT&E shirts, a portable DVD player, another pre-paid cellphone, IT&E Aircard, Nintendo DS, IT&E “MiFi” and Nintendo Wii.

Hix said in addition to raffle prizes, there will be a bunch of cool giveaways exclusively for promo guests courtesy of IT&E and Pepsi.

She also said there will be promotional giveaways and water park passes for this event and will be distributed through Power 99 and a raffle/s on Facebook. There will also be prizes to be given away through IT&E’s text and win game.

Hix added that the IT&E summer interns will be in charge of the whole event, including working on the raffle tickets, distribution of promo items, to handling the major giveaways.

IT&E is thankful to Pacific Islands Club and Pepsi for teaming up with them in this fantastic summer promo, said Hix.

For more information, contact Nola Hix at 682-7770.

Military training at Warning Area-517

SANTA RITA, Guam—The Air Force will conduct training on Warning Area-517 on July 19, 22 and 23, from 7am to midnight. The Navy will conduct training on W-517 on

July 20-21 from 8am to 5pm.

The general public—especially fisherman, commercial pilots and marine tour operators—are advised to stay clear from these areas during the times and dates indicated.

W-517 is an irregular shaped polygon comprising of 14,000 nautical miles of airspace that begins south of Guam and extends south-southwest in international waters. W-517 supports surface and aerial gunnery, missiles, and laser exercises. This will affect fishing in the vicinity of Santa Rosa Reef and Galvez Bank. (PR)

Cancer Survivor Support Meeting

All cancer survivors are invited to attend the survivor support meeting on,

**Tuesday, July 20, 2010
at Hyatt Chamolinian Room,
starting at 5:30pm.**

This month's survivor support meeting will include a presentation from Ms. Erika Miyahira and Ms. Danita Henley of University of Hawaii Hilo College of Pharmacy on The Safety of Natural Medicines during and after your treatment, followed by a survivors-only discussion.

For more information or to RSVP, contact Joanne Ogo at 236-8728 or email joanne.ogo@gmail.com, or the Commonwealth Cancer Association at 682-0050.

This ad is brought to you by the Department of Public Health Comprehensive Cancer Control Program with 100% funding from the Centers of Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

Inos: \$23M in estimated operating deficit in first 9 months

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Acting Gov. Eloy S. Inos said yesterday the estimated operating deficit for the first nine months of Fiscal Year 2010 ending June is at \$23 million, which could worsen in FY 2011 when projected revenue is only at \$132 million compared to the current \$137 million—unless more spending cuts are done.

This means that government spending exceeded its revenue

collection by \$23 million between October 2009 and June 2010.

For the remaining quarter of FY 2010—July to September—projected revenues are still “on track” but it’s the spending side that is more problematic if the Legislature fails to pass the latest austerity bill that cuts most government work hours from 80 to 72 per pay period.

Inos, a former Finance secretary and who currently oversees government financial matters, said the year-to-date financial

report is still being finalized, so the \$23 million is only an “estimate.”

“Last quarter, we pegged it at \$17 million. So definitely, there will be an increase [in the third quarter of FY 2010],” Inos told *Saipan Tribune* in an interview after he signed a proclamation declaring July 18 to 24 Probation, Parole and Community Supervision Week at the Guma Hustisia in Susupe yesterday

morning.

The acting governor, however, said the austerity bill itself—House Bill 17-45—“is not going to do the job” unless, among other things, it has a “companion bill” that will generate additional revenues for the government.

Sen. Jovita Taimanao (Ind-Rota), who presides over the conference committee on the austerity bill, said the House is

expected to pass revenue generating bills after the House and Senate pass the conference committee’s version of the austerity bill.

The House will hold a session on Monday, when they expect to act on Rep. Ramon Basa’s (Cov-Saipan) HB 17-45, which calls for the shutdown of most government agencies every-other-Friday for the remainder of FY 2010 and for FY 2011.

The bill exempts from the austerity Fridays those employ-

ees in emergency posts including doctors, nurses, police officers, firefighters and corrections officers, as well as those whose positions are federal funded.

Inos said he will look at the bill and would like to meet with lawmakers prior to their session “and point out areas we feel will not be workable and see if we can reconcile that before they pass it.”

“We don’t want to address this problem after the bill passed,” the acting governor added.

USCIS REACHES MILESTONE

10,000 U visas approved in FY2010

WASHINGTON—The U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services announced yesterday it has approved 10,000 petitions for U nonimmigrant status (also referred to as the “U visa”) in fiscal year 2010, an important milestone for a program that offers immigration protection to victims of crime while also strengthening law enforcement efforts to combat those crimes.

This marks the first time that USCIS, through extensive outreach and collaboration, has reached the statutory maximum of 10,000 U visas per fiscal year since it began issuing U visas in 2008.

USCIS will resume issuing U visas on Oct. 1, 2010, the first day of fiscal year 2011. Until then, USCIS will continue to accept new petitions for U visas

and will place conditionally approved petitioners on a waiting list. Conditionally approved petitioners and qualifying family members will be able to legally remain in the United States and request work authorization. This protection also applies to conditionally approved petitioners or any qualifying family members who are in removal proceedings or have a final order of removal.

U visas are set aside for victims who have suffered substantial mental or physical abuse as a result of the criminal activity and are willing to help law enforcement authorities in the investigation or prosecution of the crime.

In fiscal year 2009, USCIS approved approximately 6,000 U visa petitions for victims of crime. (*USCIS*)

PSS summer programs have 1.5K kids

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Education Commissioner Dr. Rita A. Sablan reported to the Board of Education that approximately 1,500 students have enrolled in summer school programs for elementary and secondary schools in the Commonwealth.

Student enrolled in these programs after public school classes ended on July 18.

The summer school activities include sessions for students who were not able to meet their course requirements, reading programs, and special services for students enrolled in special education program.

According to PSS federal programs officer Tim Thornburgh, all 12 elementary schools on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota are currently doing reading activities to mitigate the

loss of learning that happens during summer.

He said three secondary schools—one junior and two high schools—on Saipan have kept their facilities open this summer to help students who were not able to complete their requirements during the regular school year. Thornburgh said the goal is to make sure that

these students meet the graduation requirements of 28 credits for the new school year.

Saipan Tribune learned that about 140 students are enrolled at Kagman High School, while Hopwood Junior High School has 230 students. A significant number of students are also taking up summer classes at Marianas High School, according to education officials.

Sablan said elementary

schools are also conducting the extended year program for special education students, services of which are part of the individualized educational plan for children with special needs.

During Wednesday’s board meeting, Sablan reported that PSS is still busy attending to the needs of students: bus service, food and meals, and mentoring services.



COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
PA/HMGP/CIP PROGRAM – OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950
Tel.: (670) 664-2375 • Fax: (670) 664-2408

INVITATION TO BID ITB10-GOV-128

Tinian Health Center Supply and Installation of Medical and Dental Equipment

Governor Benigno R. Fitial and Lt. Governor Eloy S. Inos, are soliciting sealed bids for the Municipality of Tinian, Tinian Health Center, Supply and Installation of Medical and Dental Equipment, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands:

The project package will be available Tuesday, July 20, 2010 at the Governor’s CIP Administrator’s Office, Juan A. Sablan Administration Building, Capitol Hill. A \$25.00 non-refundable fee for the project package will be assessed. All interested bidders are required to include an Insurer Certification Clearance (ICC) in their bid packages in order to bid on this project. The ICC should be obtained at the Department of Commerce, Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC) on Capitol Hill.

Bidding procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, as revised through May 24, 2001. Public Law 15-95 Local Preference Act, as amended by Public Law 15-118 does not apply to this Federally funded project. All wage rates for employees performing the work, labor and services on this project shall be paid at the current U.S. prevailing wage rates established for the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

There will be no Pre-bid Conference/Site Visit for this project. All questions regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than 4:30 p.m. local time on July 29, 2010 to Ms. Nerissa Benavente, Project Coordinator, Capital Improvement Office, Office of the Governor, Juan A. Sablan Administration Building, Capitol Hill, Saipan, or faxed to (670) 664-2408.

Sealed bids must be marked “ITB10-GOV-128”. For bidders within the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, no later than 10:00 a.m. Saipan local time, August 16, 2010. Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to Bid. Notices of Intent to Bid must be received by the Director of Procurement & Supply no later than 10:00 a.m. Saipan local time August 16, 2010, and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to @pticom.com. For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than August 16, 2010 and must be received no later than 4:30 p.m. August 16, 2010. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid. Invitation To Bid, ITB10-GOV-128

Bids will be publicly opened and read at the Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, at 10:00 a.m. Saipan local time, August 26, 2010. However, if no notices of intent to bid are received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will be opened at 11:00 a.m. Saipan local time, on August 16, 2010.

For bids greater than Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00) a bid bond of fifteen percent (15 %) of the bid amount must accompany the bid. This security may be a Certified Check, Cashier’s Check or Bid Bond. Checks must be made payable to the CNMI Treasurer, with the name of the bidder and a notation on the face of the check: “Credit Account No. 44660”. Surety companies must hold a certificate of authority from the U.S. Secretary of the Treasury as an acceptable surety or other surety acceptable to the CNMI Attorney General.

The bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be subject to a responsibility determination in conformance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations Section 3-301. The responsible bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be awarded a contract with the CNMI Government and will be required to deliver Performance and Payment bonds, each equal to 100% of the contract price. The surety company providing the Performance and Payment bonds must possess a certificate of authority to conduct business in the CNMI and certification that the value or its unencumbered assets (exclusive or all outstanding commitments on other bond obligations) exceed the amount or each bond. Performance time for completion of this project is sixty (60) calendar days upon issuance of Notice to Proceed. The daily amount of liquidated damages shall be greater of (i) one hundred dollars (\$100.00), or (ii) two percent (2%) of the contract price divided by sixty (60) calendar days, the contract time and will be assessed as delays beyond the established completion date.

All bid documents received shall become the sole property of the CNMI Government. The Government reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any imperfection in a bid proposal that does not effect the elements of price, quantity, and delivery of the bid, in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

/s/ ELOY S. INOS, Lieutenant Governor
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

/s/ Herman S. Sablan, Director
Procurement and Supply, DOF



COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
PA/HMGP/CIP PROGRAM – OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950
Tel.: (670) 664-2375 • Fax: (670) 664-2408

INVITATION TO BID ITB10-GOV-116

ADDENDUM NO. 1
07-13-10

CNMI Brown Tree Snake Program Facility Improvements

The previously advertised notice, Invitation To Bids (“ITB”) for the “CNMI Brown Tree Snake Program Facility Improvements Project” has been amended. The specific amendment is to extend when bids are due when bids will open.

Amendment shall read:

Bids must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, no later than 10:00 a.m. Saipan local time, July 26, 2010. Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to Bid. Notices of Intent to Bid must be received by the Director of Procurement & Supply no later than 10:00 a.m. Saipan local time July 26, 2010, and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@pticom.com. For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than July 26, 2010 and must be received no later than August 04, 2010 (Saipan Local Time). Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid.

Bids will be publicly opened and read at the Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, at 10:00 a.m. Saipan local time, August 05, 2010. However, if no notices of intent to bid are received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will be opened at 11:00 a.m. Saipan local time, on July 26, 2010.

All other elements of the ITB remain as originally provided. For further information on this project, please contact the Office of Capital Improvement, Capitol Hill, Saipan, during working hours (7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. – Monday through Friday, except holidays) or by contacting Mr. Carl Castro, Project Coordinator at 664-2371 or by fax at 664-2408. Questions are due no later than close of business day July 19, 2010.

/s/ Eloy S. Inos, Lieutenant Governor
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

/s/ Herman S. Sablan, Director
Procurement & Supply

Tinian cop pleads guilty to 'ice' distribution

» Officer admits 'ice' deal made in his patrol car

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A Tinian police officer who was among three men arrested in May during a

joint anti-meth operation conducted by Tinian police and Drug Enforcement Administration, entered a guilty plea in federal court yesterday.

Police Officer I Gilbert Macaranas

pleaded guilty to count 2 of the indictment charging him with distribution of a controlled substance as part of a plea bargain.

U.S. District Court for the NMI visiting judge Robert J. Bryan accepted Macaranas' guilty plea and set his sen-

tencing on Oct. 19, 2010 at 10am.

Bryan ordered the U.S. Probation Office to submit a pre-sentence investigation report by Sept. 14, 2010.

Macaranas was allowed to remain free on bail until his sentencing.

According to the plea agreement, on July 22, 2009, Macaranas abetted Car-

los Aldan in distributing "ice" on Tinian and that Macaranas used his patrol car to facilitate the distribution of "ice." Macaranas also allowed Aldan to distribute "ice" in his patrol car.

The third person arrested and charged was Henry M. San Nicolas, an employee of the Tinian Mayor's Office and assigned at the Dog Control Program.

Macaranas was represented by lawyer G. Anthony Long.

Inos, Demapan honor probation, parole officers

Acting Gov. Eloy Inos and Chief Justice Miguel S. Demapan honored probation and parole officers in the CNMI yesterday for their important role in the community.

Inos and Demapan jointly signed in a simple ceremony at the CNMI Supreme Court a proclamation declaring July 18 to 24 as CNMI Probation and Parole Officers Week.

Inos urged the community to pay a special tribute to probation and parole officers "who serve so faithfully, often with little or no thanks or recognition."

In his remarks, Demapan said that at the recent conference of the Pacific Judicial Council held in Guam, he emphasized as president of that Council

the need to include probation and parole officers in training programs.

"I'm always advocating for you guys. You can count on me," Demapan said.

In his inspirational remarks, Superior Court Associate Judge David A. Wiseman said probation and parole officers and many others involved in community corrections play an indispensable role in implementing and enforcing the goals essential to maintaining the rule of law.

"These officers must provide guidance in future conduct to those persons who have been convicted of crimes, to promote their rehabilitation and to monitor their restitution to victims along with other probation terms and

conditions," Wiseman said.

He noted that when a criminal defendant is on probation or parole he is serving his sentence in the community without being behind bars but under restrictive standards and under the watchful and supervising eyes of the probation and parole officers.

"You all have a very important role to perform and the rule of law and the community you serve must continue to have confidence that you will maintain and even improve the high standards of your practice of community correction policies. A positive attitude and practice of professionalism will enhance and ensure such endeavor," Wiseman said. *(Ferdie de la Torre)*

NAVFAC breaks ground for building projects

SANTA RITA, Guam—The U.S. Naval Facilities Engineering Command Marianas and Commander Submarine Squadron 15 hosted a groundbreaking ceremony Thursday at Polaris Point on U.S. Naval Base Guam in Piti.

The groundbreaking was for the construction of a new two-story consolidated training, submarine learning center, and headquarters facility; and a one-story torpedo exercise support facility.

The project costs a total of \$23.5 million, according to Catherine Cruz Norton, Public Affairs Officer, NAVFAC Mariana. She clarified that these buildings are not associated with the Guam military buildup.

A \$4 billion maximum capacity indefinite-delivery indefinite-quantity design-build multiple award construction contract was awarded May 2010 to seven companies for construction projects at sites on Guam and other areas in the Naval Facilities Engineering Command Pacific area of responsibility. Under the terms of the MACC, a \$23.41 million task order (0001) was awarded to dck-ecc pacific guam llc for this seed project.

The SLC will be a learning facility for academic and applied training consisting of team trainers and simulators, classrooms and instructors offices.

The CSS-15 headquarters facility will include offices and administrative

spaces, an emergency control center, and material and equipment storage rooms.

The torpedo exercise support facility will include a target preparation area, helicopter launcher checkout and preparation area, exercise torpedo flushing operations room, and support office spaces.

All work for this task order is expected to be completed by November 2011.

The Naval Facilities Engineering Command manages the planning, design, construction, contingency engineering, real estate, environmental, and public works support for U.S. Navy shore facilities around the world. *(PR)*

Mittal said GAO has documented these internal control weaknesses in several reports between 2000 and 2009.

In GAO's March 2010 report, for example, it said that nearly 40 percent of grant projects in the CNMI and other U.S. insular areas funded through the Interior's Office of Insular Affairs have internal control weaknesses.

The Commonwealth Health Center's dialysis project on Saipan ranked first among 24 OIA-funded projects with the highest prevalence of internal control weaknesses.

Of the 24 projects, 13 are in the CNMI, including the dialysis center. These weaknesses in the dialysis center project include frequently changing priorities, lack of local operations and/or maintenance funding, limited local capacity, and contractor issues.

Mittal said internal control is an integral component of an organization's management that provides reasonable assurance that operations are effective and efficient, financial reporting is reliable, and applicable laws and regulations are complied with.

She said examples of such internal control activities include accurate and timely recording of transactions and events, and controls over information processing.

"If federal agencies do not use effective internal control activities, or have weaknesses in their internal controls, they can increase the risk of potential

mismanagement or misuse and waste of grant funds," she told Bordallo's subcommittee.

Challenges

Ada, who is also the CNMI lead person on issues related to the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, said the effectiveness of OIA's technical assistance program can be measured with the successes that the CNMI has been afforded as a result of the funding.

OIA awarded the CNMI approximately \$6.3 million over the course of Fiscal Years 2009 through 2009 alone.

In 2009, OIA also provided \$81,250 to the CNMI to assist the islands in managing and requesting ARRA funds.

In the same year, OIA provided \$220,000 for geothermal resource assessment related to CNMI volcanoes.

Ada said that while there are a number of benefits and successes resulting directly from OIA's Technical Assistance Program, there are some challenges that continue to hamper the effectiveness of the program in the CNMI.

He said the CNMI has noted three areas that should be identified for consideration by the committee.

These include the absence of technical assistance funding priorities and criteria, the lack of a single database which minimizes data inconsistencies between the CNMI and OIA, and no focus on funding that is based on documented long-term planning.

CEPEDA

From Page 1

of Pacific Trading Co. His term as regent was supposed to expire in 2013.

Fitial is still off-island for official business.

Saipan Tribune tried to obtain comments from Board of Regents chair Janet King yesterday but she has yet to respond as of press time.

At present, NMC is addressing the 10 recommendations of the accrediting commission and has only three months to submit its corrective measures to prevent the institution from closing.

Cepeda was reappointed to the board in January this year, in time for the election of new officers. He was de-

feated for the chairmanship by King on a 4-3 vote.

Cepeda, along with regents Malua Peter and Elaine Orilla, became the minority bloc on the board. The three were the same ones who opposed the termination of former president Dr. Carmen Fernandez, citing its effects on the college's accreditation.

Other members of the board are King, Frank Rabauliman, Maria Paz Younis, and Andrew Orsini.

The election of a new chairperson was postponed during yesterday's meeting due to the absence of Cepeda and Peter. It was deferred to the board's next meeting.

Pursuant to board policy, a new chairperson and treasurer must be elected every even-numbered year.

COP

From Page 1

dismissed because the officer who handled the investigation was subsequently charged in federal court for extortion charges.

Associate judge Perry B. Inos imposed yesterday a \$10,000 cash bail each for Omengkar and Richards and set a preliminary hearing for July 22 at 9am.

Inos appointed a private counsel for Richards and tapped the Office of the Public Defender to serve as counsel for Omengkar.

Police spokesman Jason Tarkong said the CNMI Joint Drug Task Force consisting of DPS and Customs officers received on Thursday afternoon information that Omengkar, a known drug user and dealer, was in possession of and was trafficking "ice."

Omengkar was immediately placed on surveillance and a team was assigned to tail her, he said.

The team spotted Omengkar that same day, riding a white 1993 Toyota pickup truck. When the pickup truck parked at the Garapan Fishing Base, task force officers approached the vehicle and spoke to Omengkar, who was in the passenger seat.

Upon questioning, Omengkar allegedly admitted to possessing and trafficking "ice."

"Omengkar surrendered an undetermined amount of 'ice' to task force officers, along with an undetermined amount of cash she received during her transactions," Tarkong said.

Task force officers identified Omengkar's driver as Richards, who was at that time off duty.

Tarkong said Omengkar claimed that Richards accompanied and drove her around while she was dealing narcotics.

Police arrested Omengkar and Richards at 5:05pm that day.

Tarkong said the task force officers found a .9mm pistol, believed to be a DPS-issued firearm, on the driver's side floor mat of the truck.

"The vehicle was impounded and both suspects were transported to the

Department of Corrections where they were booked and detained," he said.

Richards was also arrested on July 28, 2009, after he was tagged as an accomplice in a burglary and theft case at a private residence on Capital Hill.

Police said Richards used his patrol car as a getaway vehicle during the commission of the crime.

The burglary and theft incident happened at the Miller Estate Apartment room D4, which robbed of a laptop, a watch, checks, and credit cards.

Police learned that Richards used an alias during another burglary at the San Roque School on July 18, 2009. One of the suspects told police that they used the patrol car in that burglary.

At a press conference yesterday, DPS Commissioner Santiago F. Tudela said he is suspending Richards without pay until all necessary papers are completed for his eventual termination.

"I want to see this individual exit the department," he said.

Tudela said he wants to send a strong message to police officers and firefighters that they should not be involved in illegal drugs.

"We will continue the drug testing in the department. I will not tolerate such abuse of authority," Tudela said.

The commissioner said Richards was suspended after he was arrested in the burglary case, but the case was subsequently dismissed without prejudice and so the officer was reinstated to DPS.

Tudela said the case was dismissed because the detective assigned to the case, Christopher Leon Guerrero, had been arrested for extortion charges.

When reinstated, Richards was assigned to handle administrative duty, but a month later, after completing a firearm recertification training, deputy commissioner Ambrosio Ogumoro assigned him back to patrol, Tudela said.

Sgt. Joseph Flores, officer-in-charge of DPS Internal Affairs, said DPS suspended Richards on July 27, 2009, because of the burglary case.

Flores said the case was dismissed in December 2009 and Richards was reinstated to the department on Feb. 19, 2010.

GAO

From Page 1

the U.S. Congress.

It said this concern with internal control weaknesses is also shared by the U.S. Department of the Interior, which provides some \$400 million annually in financial assistance to the CNMI, Guam, American Samoa, the U.S. Virgin Islands, as well as the Federated States of Micronesia, Palau and the Marshall Islands.

GAO said the Interior's Office of Insular Affairs grants are essential in supporting insular areas' economies.

GAO's Anu K. Mittal, director of GAO's Natural Resources and Environment Team, was one of those who testified at the oversight hearing held by the U.S. House Subcommittee on Insular Affairs, Oceans and Wildlife, chaired by Guam Delegate Madeleine Z. Bordallo, on Thursday afternoon in Washington, D.C.

CNMI Commerce Secretary Michael Ada, Interior's Office of Insular Affairs director of Technical Assistance Division Charlene Leizear, and University of the Virgin Islands President Dr. David Hall also testified at the oversight hearing, titled "Technical Assistance Program: Evaluating its Ability to Meet the Needs of the Insular Areas."

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial was also at the hearing but did not testify.

PAYLESS SUPERMARKET

OPEN 24 HOURS DAILY

WE ACCEPT FOODSTAMPS

ALL MAJOR CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED

Weekly Sale!

JULY 17-18, 2010 • SATURDAY & SUNDAY

U.S. PRODUCE

Broccoli Crowns
\$179
LB.

Cauliflower
\$129
LB.

Celery
89¢
LB.

Green Cabbage
79¢
LB.

Potato
79¢
LB.

Yellow Onions
59¢
LB.

Green Bellpeper
\$149
LB.

Red Bell Pepper
\$129
LB.

Orange
89¢
LB.

Kiwi
\$229
LB.

Grapes
\$179
LB.

Cantaloupe
89¢
LB.

Jumbo Carrots
89¢
LB.

Lettuce Cello
99¢
LB.

Fuji Apple
\$159
LB.

Honeydew
99¢
LB.

Eggs
LARGE
\$189
DOZ.

KOREAN PRODUCE

Pear
\$150
LB.

Apple
\$199
LB.

Napa Cabbage
99¢
LB.

Raddish
89¢
LB.

GROCERIES • BEVERAGES

Saan Soju

OB Beer

Bear Flour

Sugar

Chum-Churum

Cass Beer

Sam Da Soo Water 500 ML.

Nong Shim Bowl Noodles

Butane Gas

69¢
EA.

\$1999
CS.

Town House

SHOPPING CENTER

Kids Blouse

3 for \$1000
Ladies Blouse

\$999
Bras (Assorted)

\$300 - \$599
Men's Shorts

2 for \$1800
Boys T-Shirts

3 for \$1000
Boys Shorts

\$800 - \$899
Adult hHats

\$399 - \$799
Unisex Sunglasses

\$399
Girls Blouse

\$599 - \$699
Ladies Bags

\$1000 - \$1500
Ladies Pants & Capri Pants

2 for \$1800
Ladies Sandals

\$1000
Girls Sandals
\$699
Mens Shoes

\$1500 - \$2200

Opinion

Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
Volume XX, Issue No. 169Published daily at 2/F JP Center,
Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, CNMI
Mailing Address: PMB 34, Box 10001, Saipan, MP 96950Jayvee L. Vallejera EDITOR
Mark Rabago ASSISTANT EDITOR

MEMBER

AP The Associated Press

Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

The flip side to a decade of economic illusion

While it's popular to criticize Washington for spending insanely and refusing to live within a budget, the reality is that too many Americans aren't walking the tough talk in our own households.

According to a new report, 25.5 percent of all consumers—nearly 43.4 million people—have credit scores of 599 or below, meaning they are bad lending risks and unlikely to get credit cards, car loans or mortgages. That number is up 2.4 million in the last two years as the economy has shed jobs and spawned foreclosures.

No wonder the country's financial recovery seems stuck in neutral. Consumers who can't borrow money can't buy houses and cars, make substantial home improvements, purchase big durable goods or, in some instances, even find affordable auto insurance. Big-dollar purchases like these fuel economic growth and give businesses reasons to hire workers and ramp up production. Record-low mortgage rates or interest-free car loans are enticing but useless if too few Americans have the credit scores to qualify.

These numbers provide a sobering backdrop to the nation's economic travails. If they continue, more Americans will not qualify for—or be able to afford—interest payments on goods or services they were able to buy a few years ago. And that will have a negative domino effect on the economy and thus on those with excellent or moderate scores.

Right now, those with moderate credit scores (650 to 699) make up nearly 12 percent of consumers, a slight decrease from 2008. Whether the credit-worthiness of this group holds steady or improves in the next few months will be yet another signal of the economy's outlook and of the willingness of consumers to make tough personal choices about debt and spending.

Like it or not, this is the flip side of years of economic self-delusion. Consumer spending based on credit fueled the U.S. economic boom beyond what sensible financial planning would have dictated. Americans loaded up on credit cards that were approved without serious credit checks, and they bought houses and cars that they couldn't afford because neither lenders nor consumers could utter the word "no." Under pressure to rebuild their battered balance sheets, banks now are more discriminating in their loan decisions. In turn, more Americans are confronting their financial mortality.

Credit scores aren't going to get better until two things happen—the economy improves and Americans change the spending habits that helped create now-toppling sand castles of false prosperity. Yes, Washington must get the nation's financial house in order, but the rest of us also must walk the talk.

(c) 2010, The Dallas Morning News



The most powerful woman in Iraq

By ALI KAREEM
THE INSTITUTE FOR WAR&PEACE REPORTING

BAGHDAD—To some, she is a defender of the poor and oppressed. To others, she is a Shia hardliner and outspoken critic of the U.S. presence in Iraq.

Almost everyone agrees, however, that Maha al-Douri, the top female vote-getter in this year's parliamentary election, is one of the most popular and powerful women in Iraq.

Douri, known to her supporters in the Sadr City of Baghdad as Sister Maha, was the top vote-getter among Sadrist bloc candidates in the March 7 vote. She campaigned on her commitment to education, religious values and the plight of women and orphans.

But she is also an outspoken critic of the U.S. role in Iraq, saying that American occupation has "left nothing but destruction, broken families and prisoners." Her critics contend that her hard-line support for Islamic rule—she has called for the government to enforce Sharia law across the country—is incompatible with her defense of women's rights.

"Even if Maha al-Douri did well in the election, it doesn't mean she will serve women's issues," said Jinan Mubarak, head of the NGO Iraqi National Center for Rehabilitation. "Those two approaches could never be combined in one personality." Douri sees no conflict between her support of radical Shia cleric Moqtada al-Sadr and her support of women's issues.

"If my links to Moqtada al-Sadr and my rejection of the occupation are considered radical, then I have to admit that I am a radical. I believe in my country, and that it will continue to suffer as long as the occupier is on our land," she said.

"My beliefs don't conflict with my advocacy work. Moqtada (al-Sadr) was one of the first leaders in Iraq to start programs for widows and orphans, as well to demand better schools. We are politicians working for our people, so I don't think we can be branded radicals just because we are against the occupation," she said.

Born into a Sunni family, Douri, 38, converted to the Shia faith as a student in the late 1990s when she found inspiration in the teachings of Mohammad Sadiq al-Sadr, Moqtada's highly revered father. In interviews, she has said that when she converted, her family disowned her. Later, when she married a Shia, she said her family threatened to kill her.

Douri studied veterinary medicine at Mustansiriyah University in Baghdad and became an assistant professor there in 2000. Two years later, she was fired for refusing to join the Baath Party. Instead, she joined the Sadrist movement and fled to Syria.

She returned to Iraq with her husband and two children in 2003 after the U.S. invasion and quickly relocated from the Sha'ab district to the heart of Sadr City. In this impoverished district of 3 million Shia, Douri opened the Maha al-Douri Education Center and began holding lectures on religion and social issues as well as providing basic education classes.

"Douri is very popular in Sadr City because she helps people, especially widows and the poor. She opens her house twice a week to receive people and help through her charity. She attends Friday prayers every week, and I heard that Moqtada personally asked her to participate in the election because of her popularity," said Awatef Hussein, 30, a factory worker in Sadr City.

In the 2005 election, Douri was elected to represent Sadr City.

In parliament, Douri called for women to play a bigger political role in Iraq and helped draft a still-pending law on violence against women and children. She served on parliament's community complaints committee in which she pushed for improved public services, including electricity, sanitation and clean water. Douri described her role in government as "a bridge between people and officials." Not everyone, however, is a fan.

Safiyah al-Suhail, a legislator from the predominantly Sunni State of Law coalition who served with Douri in the previous parliament, said much of her success was due to the strong support of the Sadrist movement.

"I am close to Maha al-Douri but I want to point out that her large number of votes and popularity in Sadr City does not mean she is the best women politician in the new parliament. Her campaign was controlled by political circumstances and outside support," said Suhail.

The Sadrist bloc won 40 seats in the next 325-seat parliament, and the movement is generally credited with doing the best job of promoting its female candidates.

Ibrahim al-Sumaidei, a Baghdad political analyst and newspaper columnist, agrees.

"In reality, it is not Maha al-Douri who won the majority of women's votes and did so well in the last election," he said. "It was the Sadrists' well-organized electoral plan that got her the huge win. I bet Douri did not win a single vote outside of Sadr City." Still, even her harshest critics acknowledge she has become a political force in the country.

Even Sumaidei acknowledges that Douri's performance in parliament has been impressive.

"Her arguments in parliament have made her famous with Sadr's followers and poor citizens," said Sumaidei. "They see her as a woman who will not be silenced, unlike a number of men in parliament. They see her as a hero." Douri herself hopes to build upon her parliamentary success.

"It is my dream that this generation of women politicians will do things to help our people that will be remembered in Iraqi history," she said. "Our duty is to oversee the government's performance. I would also like to work with my colleagues to heal the wounds left by the occupier after it withdraws. The occupation will leave us a ruined country, and it will take all our efforts to fix it."

Ali Kareem is a reporter in Iraq who writes for The Institute for War & Peace Reporting, a nonprofit organization that trains journalists in areas of conflict.

EDITORIAL POLICY

The *Saipan Tribune* welcomes comments on any article, column, editorial, or topic that may be of interest to the public. Letters to the editor must include the name, address, and contact number of the contributor. Letters that are critical in nature should focus on issues, not personalities. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Time use: Work eight hours, sleep eight hours, talk dinosaurs eight hours

By KEVIN HARRIGAN

ST. LOUIS POST-DISPATCH

The American Time Use Survey for 2009 was released nearly three weeks ago, but because I have been way busier than the average American, I did not actually have time to read it until the middle of last week.

The reason: I have been spending a lot of time lately on dinosaurs, way more, I would guess, than the average non-paleontologist American. So my apologies to the Bureau of Labor Statistics and the Census Bureau, and to the 13,100 Americans who participated in its survey, for not getting around to this fine work until now.

This is particularly inexcusable since, unlike most Americans, I can read the American Time Use Survey as part of my job, at which the average employed American male spends about 8.3 hours a day.

Also, the time I spend at my job is about the only part of the day (aside from the time I spend sleeping, which, owing to the urgency of discussing dinosaurs, is somewhat less than the 8.67 hours a day that the average American spends sleeping) that I don't spend on the subject of dinosaurs.

Most other American men, if they are to read the American Time Use Survey, must devote some of their 5.8 hours a day of leisure activity to the task. Take away the average of 2.8 hours a day the average American devotes to watching television, and that leaves only three hours for other tasks.

Fortunately for me, I can incorporate my television time into my dinosaur-related duties. This involves watching the same movies

and TV shows on television over and over again. I am willing to do this because I also can read while I watch TV, as long as I don't mind being interrupted to discuss the relative ferocity of Allosaurus and Tyrannosaurus, or the dietary habits of Iguanodon.

And, because the time I spend watching TV and discussing dinosaurs usually is in the company of a 3-year-boy, I can roll it into the two hours a day that adults in the average American household containing a child under 6 devotes to primary childcare.

Certainly I can include my TV-watching, dinosaur-discussing and attempting-to-read time into the 5.6 hours a day that the average adult in a household containing a child under 6 devotes to secondary childcare.

For me, the problem comes in deciding what is secondary childcare (time spent caring for a child while doing something else) and what is primary childcare (time spent exclusively caring for a child).

For example, say there is a dinosaur movie on television—again—and I am happily reading a book in the presence of a 3-year-old for whom I am providing secondary childcare. (Note: This a problem only for adults, because the average American age 15 to 19 reported spending only five minutes a day reading, considerably less time than some 3-year-olds I can mention spend having books about dinosaurs read to them).

But I digress. If I am providing secondary childcare and suddenly a Tyrannosaurus Rex disguised as a 3-year-old child attacks me, obliging me to assume the role of the victim of a dinosaur attack, does this stop being secondary childcare and become primary childcare?

You see the problem.

On weekends, the average American spends less time on primary childcare and about 7.7 hours a day on secondary childcare. This is only natural, because the kids come along as you do your chores—including visiting the Science Center and Climatron displays about dinosaurs, checking out more dinosaur books at the library and looking for plastic dinosaurs lost in the grass before you mow the yard.

What I find remarkable about the American Time Use Survey—aside from the fact that Americans are getting way more sleep than commonly thought and watching way more television than is good for them—is that on an average day, only about half the women reported doing any housework.

It's not that men are taking over—only one in five men reported doing housework on an average day. If I'm right, that means that on an average day, no housework at all is being done in 30 percent of American homes.

Who picks up the plastic dinosaurs and puts away the dinosaur books?

My recommendation is that the Bureau of Labor Statistics include dinosaur-related activities as part of next year's American Time Use Survey. The results would be far more meaningful.

Now, if you'll excuse me, I have to prepare a lecture on the differences between Triceratops and Styraosaurus. An expert is waiting.

Kevin Harrigan is a columnist for the St. Louis Post-Dispatch. Readers may write to him at: St. Louis Post-Dispatch, 900 North Tucker Blvd., St. Louis, Mo. 63101, or e-mail him at kharrigan@post-dispatch.com.

Billy the Kid: a pardon at long last?

By MARK LEE GARDNER

LOS ANGELES TIMES

“I expect you have forgotten what you promised me,” Billy the Kid wrote to New Mexico Territory's governor, Lew Wallace, in 1881. The Kid was writing from a Santa Fe jail cell. He was there because of the dogged efforts of Pat Garrett, who had been elected sheriff of Lincoln County, which comprised the southeastern part of the territory, on the promise that he would put a stop to Billy and his gang of rustlers. Now Billy was waiting to be transported to Mesilla, where he would be tried for the murder of another Lincoln County lawman, Sheriff William Brady.

Billy's pointed reminder to Wallace referred to a deal the two had made two years earlier. Wallace had promised to grant Billy amnesty for his role in shooting Brady and other misdeeds if the Kid agreed to testify before a grand jury investigating another Lincoln County murder. Billy held up his end of the bargain, but the governor failed to follow through with his. The Kid's letter went unanswered, as did all the others he sent to the Palace of the Governors on Santa Fe Plaza.

Although the Kid had not acted alone in the Brady killing, he was the only one to be tried and convicted of the crime. From Mesilla, he was transferred to Lincoln to await the day of his hanging. With no sign of the promised pardon, the Kid staged the most famous of his many daring escapes. On April 28, 1881, while Garrett was away

collecting taxes, Billy surprised his two guards, killing both deputies with their own guns. As the townspeople watched in horror and awe, the Kid rode away unmolested.

Once more, Garrett had the dangerous job of hunting down the outlaw, and he knew that when they eventually met, only one would walk away, for Billy had let it be known that he would not be taken alive again. Tipped off that the Kid was at Fort Sumner, where his sweetheart lived, Garrett rode to the Pecos Valley with two deputies. About midnight on July 14, Garrett shot and killed a surprised Billy in the bedroom of rancher Pete Maxwell's house.

Garrett was lauded for bringing to an end the bloody career of the 21-year-old, but the sheriff would live to see his popularity reversed with Billy's. The Kid quickly became an outlaw hero and Garrett the villain who shot him down in the dark.

What might have happened if Wallace had kept his bargain? Chances are, Billy would have continued to take — and commit occasional mayhem — as he pleased, but the romanticist in all of us likes to imagine a different outcome.

In 2003, New Mexico Gov. Bill Richardson announced that he would consider making good on Wallace's promise and issue a pardon for Billy. Richardson's announcement came in the midst of international media attention over a modern-day forensic investigation looking into the circumstances of the Kid's death. But as the hoopla subsided, so did the talk of a pardon.

Now the governor, whose term expires in January, is reportedly again giving serious consideration to Billy's pardon.

The new educational frontier

By WILLIAM MCKENZIE

THE DALLAS MORNING NEWS

A new, largely overlooked part of the Obama administration's education agenda is its pitch to get more parents involved with their children's schooling.

The parenting initiative, announced in May, hasn't received the same attention as the president's "Race to the Top" program, which offers states more money to improve their school standards. But like "Race to the Top," the administration wants to increase the amount of money states would receive for "parental engagement" programs. States would award that money to local districts to help get parents to engage their children academically.

This is basically a good idea, with one large caveat.

Let's deal first with why going after parents make sense.

A significant body of research shows students whose parents pay serious attention to their classwork end up with larger horizons than peers whose parents don't open the world to them. Students with engaged parents learn from an early age how a mastery of math or facility with a foreign language can lead them to bountiful fields of study.

There's also a societal benefit to parents widening horizons for their children. Their offspring will imagine the new frontiers of our economy and take us there.

Parental involvement matters at the neighborhood level, too.

By reading to young children each day, getting each child ready for school every morning and staying on top of their assignments, especially in middle school and high school, parents increase their children's chances of attending college or snagging a good job.

What's more, active parents will start pressing for quality teachers and demanding courses. That's certainly been part of the pattern in Dallas' more stable northern neighborhoods.

But here's the worry.

Our tax dollars could get burned up like dry timber if states don't approach each district's proposal with a healthy skepticism. Too many parental engagement programs sound good on paper but ultimately make little difference. They are like the kid who gets to the major leagues way too early. They might look the part but never perform.

Heather Weiss, who directs the Family Research Project at Harvard University's Graduate School of Education, said during a recent telephone interview that four decades of research show us that "what families do is one of the strongest predictors of a child's success."

But, she emphasized, "the difficulty is how to translate that understanding into interventions that move the needle."

Some basics do make a difference:

■ Successful programs are seen as shared responsibilities between

parents and schools. As Weiss told me, "It isn't just teachers doing this or parents doing that. It's both working together over time."

■ Parenting programs can't be random acts of kindness. They must start early and run through a child's school years. "Cradle to career" is how Weiss describes breakthrough parenting programs.

■ Districts that do parenting well make parental engagement part of the principal's annual review. The school's leader earns marks for parenting efforts that end up improving his school's performance.

In announcing the administration's parenting initiative, Education Secretary Arne Duncan said he wants to give grants to programs that "support, incentivize and help expand district-level, evidence-based parental involvement practices."

That's a heap of bureaucratic lingo, but he's on the mark to insist on "evidence-based." Districts could easily present fancy-looking initiatives that never come close to moving the needle. But the ones that include the right fundamentals are part of what Weiss calls the new frontier in education.






Successful parenting programs matter to the student, a neighborhood and eventually the larger society.

William McKenzie is an editorial columnist for The Dallas Morning News. Readers may write to him at the Dallas Morning News, Communications Center, Dallas, Texas 75265; e-mail: wmckenzie@dallasnews.com.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	TUESDAY
				
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲ 89° ▼ 79°	▲ 89° ▼ 79°	▲ 85° ▼ 77°	▲ 86° ▼ 77°	▲ 86° ▼ 77°

Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Mostly Sunny	▲ 89 ▼ 79
Palau	Partly Cloudy	▲ 86 ▼ 78
Yap	Partly Sunny	▲ 87 ▼ 77
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	▲ 82 ▼ 77
Pohnpei	Rain	▲ 87 ▼ 74
Kosrae	Rain	▲ 88 ▼ 78
Majuro	Showers	▲ 86 ▼ 76

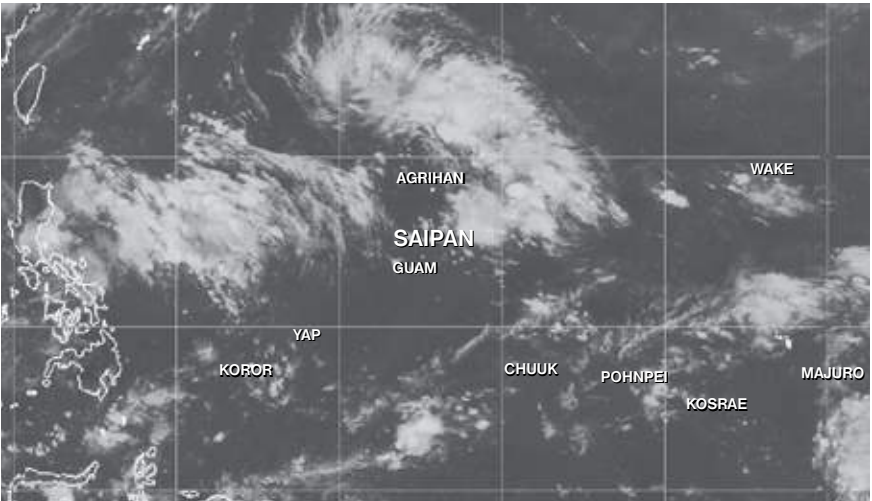
Around The Globe

Auckland	Showers	▲ 58 ▼ 50
Beijing	Thundershowers	▲ 83 ▼ 72
Hong Kong	Thundershowers	▲ 86 ▼ 74
Honolulu	Mostly Sunny	▲ 86 ▼ 75
London	Partly Cloudy	▲ 73 ▼ 57
Los Angeles	Mostly Sunny	▲ 88 ▼ 67
Manila	Thundershowers	▲ 88 ▼ 81
Melbourne	Sunny	▲ 60 ▼ 47
Miami	Thundershowers	▲ 88 ▼ 81
New York	Mostly Sunny	▲ 94 ▼ 77
Osaka	Partly Cloudy	▲ 89 ▼ 76
Paris	Mostly Cloudy	▲ 75 ▼ 54
Pusan	Thunderstorms	▲ 80 ▼ 74
Rome	Sunny	▲ 96 ▼ 76
Salem	Sunny	▲ 81 ▼ 52
San Francisco	Mostly Sunny	▲ 71 ▼ 60
Seoul	Thunderstorms	▲ 81 ▼ 75
Tokyo	Mostly Cloudy	▲ 86 ▼ 75
Washington, DC	Mostly Sunny	▲ 96 ▼ 79

Tides

Saipan Harbor				
6:17 AM	Today	Low Tide:	0.6 Feet	
11:44 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.6 Feet	
6:00 PM	Today	Low Tide:	0.4 Feet	

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, FRIDAY, JULY 16, 2010

Western North Pacific between Equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

An upper-level low is centered north of the northern Mariana Islands near 22N141E. Divergent upper level winds associated with the low are triggering scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms north and east of the Marianas within 225 miles of a line from 17N154E to beyond 25N144E. Convergent trade-winds associated with and southwest of the upper low are generating scattered showers and a few thunderstorms north of Koror and Yap between 14N and 18N from 130E to 141E. Trade-wind convergence is producing scattered showers and a few thunderstorms southwest of Chuuk between 3N and 4N from 144E to 146E. Farther east, scattered showers and a few thunderstorms are found north of Kwajelelin between 11N and 13N from 165E to 168E. Trade-wind convergence east of a surface trough that runs from EQ172E to 6N171E is producing scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms south and southeast of Majuro between the Equator and 5N from 170E to 177E.

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	5:55 AM	6:51 PM
Sunday	5:55 AM	6:51 PM
Monday	5:56 AM	6:51 PM
Tuesday	5:56 AM	6:51 PM
Wednesday	5:56 AM	6:50 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	11:02 AM	11:05 PM
Sunday	11:58 AM	11:50 PM
Monday	12:55 PM	-
Tuesday	1:53 PM	12:36 AM
Wednesday	2:50 PM	1:25 AM

GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

- PICTURES**
 - ISLAND SNAPSHOTS Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
 - BIRTHDAY GREETINGS A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
 - BUSINESS Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
 - SAMUT SARI Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
 - TRAVELOGUE Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS

- Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
- CAMPUS BULLETIN Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

REQUIREMENTS

For pictures:

- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when),

- the name of contact person, and a phone number.
- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

HOW TO SUBMIT

- E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com or jayvee_vallejera@saipantribune.com.
 - Fax: (670) 235-3740
 - Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
 - Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan
- To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

POLICY

- The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to accept or reject a contribution for publication; the right to edit all contributions, the date of publication, size of the picture, and page placement; and the right to publish contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats.
- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

NEWS DESK For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website:www.saipantribune.com.

CUSTOMER SERVICE For inquiries, purchase of back issues and complaints, call (670) 235-8747, 235-2440, fax 235-3740.

SUBSCRIPTION Published Monday to Saturday, *Saipan Tribune* offers door-to-door on-island delivery at an annual rate of \$160. For additional subscription information, call (670) 235-8747 or 235-2769, or fax 235-3740.

ADVERTISING For inquiries contact (670) 235-2769. E-mail: sales@saipantribune.com

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JULY 17, 2010

DEPARTURES				ARRIVALS			
ROTA (ROP)-GUAM				GUAM-ROTA (ROP)			
C09597	5:00am	5:30am	1, 5	C09598	6:30pm	7:00pm	4, 7
SAIPAN-GUAM				GUAM-SAIPAN			
C09317	4:25am	5:15am	Daily	C09316	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
C09313	8:30am	9:20am	Daily	C09596	7:00am	7:50am	Daily
C09601	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7	C09600	10:05am	10:55am	Daily
C09603	3:05pm	3:55pm	Daily	C09602	1:40pm	2:30pm	1, 4, 5, 7
C09605	6:35pm	7:25pm	Daily	C09604	5:10pm	6:00pm	Daily
C09599	9:35pm	10:25pm	Daily	C09606	8:10pm	9:00pm	Daily
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)				NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN			
DL287	6:00am	8:35am	Daily	DL290	9:45am	2:20pm	Daily
DL297	3:20pm	5:55pm	Daily	DL298	10:25am	3:00pm	Daily
DL289	4:35pm	7:10pm	Daily	DL288	8:40pm	1:10am+1	Daily
SAIPAN-NAGOYA				NAGOYA-SAIPAN			
DL640	7:40am	10:20am	Daily	DL641	9:10pm	1:40am+1	Daily
SAIPAN-OSAKA (KIX)				OSAKA (KIX)-SAIPAN			
OZ119	4:00am	6:40am	Daily	OZ120	9:50pm	2:20am+1	Daily
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)				BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN			
OZ608	3:20am	6:50am	1, 5	OZ607	9:00pm	2:20am+1	4, 7
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)				SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN			
OZ604	2:20am	6:00am	1	OZ605	9:00am	2:30pm	Daily
OZ604	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	OZ120	7:10pm	2:20am+1	Daily via KIX
OZ119	4:00am	11:20am	Daily via KIX	OZ603	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ606	3:30pm	7:00pm	Daily	OZ603	8:10pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)				SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN			
FM844	2:50am	5:40am	2, 6	FM843	7:15pm	1:50am+1	1, 5
SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)				GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN			
CZ3008	3:30am	6:40am	2, 6	CZ3007	7:30pm	2:40am+1	1, 5
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)				MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
OZ604/701	2:20am	11:25am	1 via ICN	OZ704/605	12:10am	2:30pm	2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN
OZ604/701	2:50am	11:25am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	DL630/641	6:30am	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7 via NGO
C09317/891	4:25am	9:45am	6 via GUM	DL172/288	7:40am	1:10am+1	Daily via NRT
DL287/173	6:00am	10:10pm	Daily via NRT	C0890/9606	10:55am	9:00pm	6 via GUM
DL640/629	7:40am	10:35pm	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7 via NGO	OZ702/603	12:45pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
C09603/933	3:05pm	8:40pm	Daily via GUM	OZ702/603	12:45pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
C09603/893	3:05pm	9:10pm	3, 5 via GUM-Palau	PR110/C09596	10:00pm	7:50am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
OZ606/703	3:30pm	11:00pm	2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN	C0892/9596	10:10pm	7:50am+1	3, 5 via GUM-Palau
C09599/PR111	9:35pm	7:50am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM	C0934/9596	10:55pm	7:50am+1	Daily via GUM
SAIPAN-HONG KONG				HONG KONG-SAIPAN			
OZ604/721	2:20am	11:45am	1 via ICN	OZ724/605	12:30am	2:30pm	2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN
OZ604/721	2:50am	11:45am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	OZ722/603	1:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
C09603/909	3:05pm	9:30pm	1, 5 via GUM	OZ722/603	1:15pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
OZ606/723	3:30pm	10:30pm	2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN	C0910/9596	10:35pm	7:50am+1	1, 5 via GUM

Editor's Note: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); CZ: China Southern; CO: Continental; FM: Shanghai Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana
ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The *Saipan Tribune* is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency	Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
Guam-Rota				FRE 113	11:40	11:50	Daily
FRE 100	7:30	8:00	Daily	FRE 115	13:00	13:10	Daily
Rota-Saipan				FRE 117	14:30	14:40	Daily
FRE 100	8:20	8:50	Daily	FRE 119	16:00	16:10	Daily
Guam-Rota				FRE 121	16:40	16:50	Daily
FRE 300	17:00	17:30	Daily	FRE 123	17:40	17:50	Daily
Rota-Saipan				FRE 125	18:30	18:40	Daily
FRE 300	17:50	18:20	Daily				
Saipan-Rota				Tinian-Saipan			
FRE 200	9:30	10:00	Daily	FRE 102	7:05	7:15	Daily
Rota-Guam				FRE 104	7:50	8:00	Daily
FRE 200	10:20	10:45	Daily	FRE 106	8:20	8:30	Daily
Saipan-Rota				FRE 108	9:00	9:10	Daily
FRE 400	18:55	19:25	Daily	FRE 110	10:00	10:10	Daily
Rota-Guam				FRE 112	11:05	11:15	Daily
FRE 400	19:40	20:10	Daily	FRE 114	12:00	12:10	Daily
Saipan-Tinian				FRE 116	13:30	13:40	Daily
FRE 101	6:45	6:55	Daily	FRE 118	14:50	15:00	Daily
FRE 103	7:30	7:40	Daily	FRE 120	16:20	16:30	Daily
FRE 105	8:00	8:10	Daily	FRE 122	17:00	17:10	Daily
FRE 107	8:40	8:50	Daily	FRE 124	18:05	18:15	Daily
FRE 109	9:10	9:20	Daily	FRE 126	18:50	19:00	Daily
FRE 111	10:45	10:55	Daily				



NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

Schedule of Religious Services										
CATHOLIC										
Mt. Carmel Cathedral Sunday Mass: 6am, 9am, 11am and 6pm Monday-Saturday: 6am Wednesday: 6am and 6pm										
Korean Center Sunday: 10:30am Wednesday: 10am Thursday-Friday: 8pm Saturday: 3pm and 7:30pm										
Kristo Rai Parish Sunday Mass: 6am, 8am and 9:30am Monday- Saturday: 6am Wednesday: 6am and 6pm Saturday: 6am and 6pm										
Nuestra Senora De Soledad Parish Wednesday Mass: 6pm First Friday Healing Mass: 6pm Saturday Mass: 6pm Sunday Masses: 7:30am & 9am										
Saint Jude Parish Sunday: 6am, 8am, 10am Wednesday and Thursday: 6pm										
San Antonio Parish Sunday: 6am and 8am Tuesday and Friday: 6pm										
San Francisco de Borja-Rota Sunday: 6am and 8am Monday-Saturday: 6am Wednesday: 6pm										
San Isidro-Rota Sunday: 5am and 10am Monday-Wednesday: 7pm Thursday-Saturday: 5am and 7pm										
San Jose (Oleai) Parish Sunday: 6am and 7:30am Tuesday-Wednesday and Friday-Saturday: 6pm										
San Roque Parish Sunday: 9am Wednesday: 6pm Saturday: 10:30am										
San Vicente Parish Sunday: 6am, 9am and 6pm Monday-Saturday: 6pm										
Santa Remedios Sunday: 7:30am Tuesday: 6pm Saturday: 10am-Baptism										
Santa Soledad Sunday: 7:30am										
PROTESTANT										
Born Again Christian (Upper Room Int'l Ministries), Saipan Wednesday Prayer and Healing Night: 8-10:30pm Saturday Tagalog Service: 8-10:30pm Sunday English Service: 9:30-11am Sunday School for Children: 10-11am Sunday Filipino Service: 9-9pm										
Calvary Baptist Church, Saipan Sunday School: 9am Sunday Morning Worship: 10am Sunday Evening Worship: 6pm Wednesday Prayer Service: 7pm										
Chinese Christian Church of Saipan Worship Services: Sunday, 10am and 7:30pm Bible Study: Tuesday-Friday, 9:25pm										
Cornerstone Christian Church, Saipan Worship/Study Opportunities Adult Sunday School: 9am Youth Sunday School: 9am English Worship Service Sunday: 10am Sunday Service: 5:30pm Worship/Fellowship Sunday: 9:30pm Evangelism/Follow-up: Sunday/Monday: 1:30/7:30pm Worship Team: Monday/Saturday-9pm; Cell Groups Tuesday: 7:30pm Mid-week Service: 7:30pm Prayer Meeting Wednesday: 7:30pm Leader's Bible Study Friday: 7:30 pm Cornerstone School of Ministry Saturday: 7:30pm										
Episcopal/Anglican Church on Saipan St. Paul's Episcopal Church Worship Service Sunday: Holy Communion 9:00am Place: Vicarage, Chalan Laulau, Call 235-0545 for directions										
Grace Christian Assembly, Saipan Worship Service: 9am GBI Classes: 4-6pm Prayer Meeting: Monday-Saturday: 6am Sunday: 7am Home Cell Bible Study: Wednesday-Friday: 7pm Youth Service: Friday: 5:30pm										
Iglesia Ni Cristo, Saipan Wednesday: 7:45pm (English) Thursday: 5:30am (English); 7:45 pm (Tagalog) Saturday: 7:45pm (Tagalog) Sunday: 6:45am (English) Children Worship Service: Sunday, 9am (English)										
Immanuel United Methodist Church Chalan Kanoa Drive, Chalan Kanoa (east of Town Center and Beach Road, Near Mt. Carmel Cathedral) Worship Service: 9:00am Children's Sunday School: 9:00am Choir Practice: 8:00am Singspiration: 8:30am Prayer, Care & Share: Wednesday 7:00pm Pastor: Millie Carroll 322-6158										
Immanuel Methodist Church (Filipino Congregation) Sunday: 7:00am-Choir Rehearsal										
8:00am-Church Service (Tagalog) 9:15am-Sunday School Wednesday: 6:30pm, home group 8:00pm-Prayer Meeting Thursday: 7:30pm-Choir Practice (Church) Saturday: 8:00pm-Choir Practice (Parsonage)										
Jesus is Lord Church, Saipan English Service: 9-11am, Sunday Tagalog Service: 6-8pm, Sunday										
Korean Presbyterian Church, Saipan Sunday School: 8:20am Sunday Adult: 10am Sunday Adult: 11:30am Sunday Evening: 7:30pm Wednesday: 8pm										
Life in the Son Christian Fellowship, Saipan Sunday Worship Service: 10am-12noon Tuesday: Leadership Institute 7pm-10pm Wednesday: Corporate prayer 7pm-8pm Last Friday of the month-prayer: 7pm-11pm Friday: Youth on Fire: 7pm-9pm Tel. No. 235-LIFE (5433)										
Marianas Baptist Church, Saipan English Worship Service: 9-10:30am Evening Worship Service: 6-7pm Children Sunday School: 9-10:30am Tagalog Sunday School: 11am-12pm English Sunday School: 11am-12pm Korean Worship Service: 11am-12pm Wednesday Prayer Meeting: English, 7pm-8pm Korean: 8:30pm-9:30pm										
Missions Connection Ministry Every Sunday Celebrations: 10am (English), 6pm (Tagalog) Wednesday Bible Study: 7pm Youth Impact Friday: 7pm Saturday Prayer Meeting: 7pm										
Northern Marianas Christian Church Sunday Worship Service 10am Fina Sisu Housing FS#1 (Child care will be provided) Friday Services @ 7pm Fina Sisu FS#1 for more info pls. contact Ryan 484-2620										
Saipan Bible Fellowship Church Sunday School: 9:30-10am Divine Worship: 10am-11:30am Evening Service: 7pm-8:30pm Wednesday Prayer Meeting: 8pm-9pm										
Saipan Christian Church Sunday: 7:30am-10am Sunday: 6:30 pm -9pm Monday: 8 pm -10pm (Prayer Meeting) Thursday: 8pm-10pm (Cell Groups)										
Saipan Church of Christ Sunday Bible Class: 9am Sunday Worship: 10am Sunday Worship English: 6pm Sunday Worship Tagalog: 7pm Wednesday Bible Study: 7:30pm										
Saipan Community Church (Sunday Services) Palau Service: 7:30am-9am English Service: 10am-11:30am Chuukese Service: 1pm-2:30pm Filipino Service: 5:00pm-7:00pm										
Seventh-Day Adventist Church, Saipan (Saturday Church Services) Sabbath School Program: 9-10am Lesson Study: 10-10:40am Divine Service: 11-12pm Visitation: 3-4pm Adventist Youth Program: 4:30-5:30pm Sundown Worship: 6-7pm										
First Baptist Church (Formerly Saipan Baptist Church) Afetna St., San Antonio Sunday <table><tr><td>9am</td><td>Sunday school</td></tr><tr><td>10am</td><td>Regular worship</td></tr><tr><td>6pm</td><td>worship</td></tr></table> Wednesday <table><tr><td>7pm</td><td>worship</td></tr></table> Everyone is warmly welcome to attend our worship services. Transportation is readily available to anyone who needs a ride to our church. For further information, please call Pastor David M. McClure at 234-1939/235-7779.			9am	Sunday school	10am	Regular worship	6pm	worship	7pm	worship
9am	Sunday school									
10am	Regular worship									
6pm	worship									
7pm	worship									
Thy Word Ministries Saipan Faith Center Phone 234-0209 New Christian Charismatic Church Service located in Chalan Paio, Beach Road in the Sablan building on the 2nd floor above Subway Sandwiches. Senior Pastors: George & Gail Kamakahi Asst. Pastors: Eric & Penny Sakaguchi Service Times Sunday 10:00am Worship Service Sunday 7pm Discipleship Classes Tuesday 10:00am Bible Studies Tuesday 6:00pm Intercessory Prayer Tuesday 7:00pm Music Practice Wednesday 7:00pm Mid-Week Service Saturday 10:00am Evangelism										
Upper Room International Ministries Sunday 5:30am-6:30am Morning prayer <table><tr><td>7am-9am</td><td>English service</td></tr><tr><td>7am-9am</td><td>Sunday school</td></tr><tr><td>10am-12noon</td><td>English service,</td></tr></table> Koblerville Wednesday 7pm-9pm Prayer meeting Saturday 7pm-9pm Tagalog service Venue: Jason Presbyterian Church Gualo Rai, Saipan			7am-9am	English service	7am-9am	Sunday school	10am-12noon	English service,		
7am-9am	English service									
7am-9am	Sunday school									
10am-12noon	English service,									
Victory Chapel Christian Fellowship Church Sunday School: 9:30am Sunday AM Worship:10:30am Sunday PM Worship:7:00am Wed Worship: 7:30pm Prayer 45 min. Prior to Service Times Morning Prayer: 6-8am M-S										

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

July 17, 2000

PSS seeks funding for school opening
The Public School System has requested Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio for additional resources for School Year 2000-2001 to help the agency hire some 76 full-time equivalents needed for the public education sector. Dr. Rita H. Inos, commissioner of education, is seeking some \$640,000 in supplemental budget for personnel allotments to enable PSS meet the teacher and staff requirement of the new Kagman Elementary School. Hiring additional personnel would also enable the school the cut down the average class size to 20 from the current 30 students per teacher.

New firm eyed to manage Fund's health claims
The NMI Retirement Fund Board is set to hire a review utilization firm this month in a move to efficiently manage all health claims of the members, according to Board Chair Vicente C. Camacho. Mr. Camacho said the firm will be able to negotiate the best quality service and cost for the Fund which has been having difficulty coping with the huge cost of medical claims since it took over the government's health insurance in June 1998. One of the firms that submitted the proposal has offered to provide the Fund 20 percent discount on all medical services including room and board, surgery and prescription drugs for patients. In 1999, the Fund spends an average of 400,000 a month in health claims of its members alone.

July 17, 2001

Beware of mosquitoes
The onset of the wet season this July calls for vigilant sanitation measures amid an expected rise on certain insect population such as mosquitoes, known to carry viruses that cause sickness. Scientist Dr. A. Lee Eavy said rainy seasons usually mean more mosquitoes, nine species of which are documented to exist in the CNMI. Eavy, the Integrated Pest Management Program Leader under the Northern Marianas College, explained that although the wet season depresses insects that prey on agriculture, public health faces risks of mosquito-borne diseases such as Japanese encephalitis and dengue.

Enron to reclaim power plant project
Enron International Mariana Power, Inc., the winning bidder which backed out in the 60-megawatt Saipan power plant project, wants to come back and claim award of the multi-million dollar contract, an official of the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation said yesterday. CUC Power Division manager Vicente N. Mesa disclosed that a ranking official of the company telephoned CUC, relaying intentions of joining the project bidding anew. "They're trying to see if they can come in," Mesa said. Mesa said it was a special assistant of Enron's chairman that made the call, but he refused to identify the caller. He said that the communication was made in an "informal" manner.

Gov't contemplates on lobbyist's contract
Fifteen more days to go yet the Commonwealth government has not made any concrete decision yet whether it intends to renew its contract with Greenberg and Traurig, the lobby firm that is in the frontline of efforts to block the proposed federal takeover of the CNMI. To make its stance on the issue known, Richard Pierce, president of the Saipan Chamber of Commerce, said in an interview that chamber leaders intend to meet with Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio today to urge him to renew the contract with Greenberg and Traurig for another six months. Tenorio declined to comment when asked whether such is his intention, saying nothing has been decided yet.

July 17, 2002

Food stamp recipients not to exceed 7,000
Community and Cultural Affairs Secretary Juan L. Babauta yesterday disclosed the implementation of precautionary measures to block the swelling number of Nutrition Assistance Program recipients. Babauta said the number of food stamp recipients should not exceed 7,000. The number of individuals serviced by NAP totaled 6,472 in May 2002, which necessitates the implementation of precautionary measures. He said tighter screening of the applicants' eligibility will be enforced to block the increasing number of NAP dependents.

Business

Congress OKs Wall St. crackdown, consumer guards

WASHINGTON (AP)—Congress on Thursday passed the stiffest restrictions on banks and Wall Street since the Great Depression, clamping down on lending practices and expanding consumer protections to prevent a repeat of the 2008 meltdown that knocked the economy to its knees.

A year in the making and 22 months after the collapse of Lehman Brothers triggered a worldwide panic in credit and other markets, the bill cleared its final hurdle with a 60-39 Senate vote. It now goes to the White House for President Barack Obama's signature, expected as early as Wednesday.

The law will give the government new powers to break up companies that threaten the economy, create a new agency to guard consumers in their financial transactions and shine a light into shadow financial markets that escaped the oversight of regulators. The vote came on the same day that Goldman Sachs & Co. agreed to pay a record \$550 million to settle charges that it misled buyers of mortgage-related investments.

From storefront payday lenders to the biggest banking and investment houses on Wall Street, few players in the financial world are immune to the bill's reach. Consumer and investor transactions, whether simple debit card swipes or the most complex securities trades, face new safeguards or restrictions.

A powerful council of regulators would be on the lookout for risks across the finance system. Large, failing financial institutions would be liquidated and the costs assessed on their surviving peers. The Federal Reserve is getting new powers while falling under greater congressional scrutiny.

"I'm about to sign Wall Street reform into law, to protect consumers and lay the foundation for a stronger and safer financial system, one that is innovative, creative, competitive and far less prone to panic and collapse," Obama said.

"Unless your business model depends on cutting corners or bilking your customers, you have nothing to fear."

Republicans said the bill is a vast federal overreach that will drive financial-sector jobs overseas. Before the final vote was even cast, House Republican leader John Boehner called for its repeal.

Goldman paying \$550M to settle civil fraud charges

WASHINGTON (AP)—Resolving a high-profile government case linked to the mortgage meltdown, Goldman Sachs & Co. has agreed to pay a record \$550 million to settle civil fraud charges that it misled buyers of complex investments.

The Securities and Exchange Commission announced the settlement Thursday with the Wall Street titan, just hours after Congress gave final approval to legislation imposing the stiffest restrictions on banks and Wall Street firms since the Great Depression.

For Goldman, it was a chance to put behind it a case that had tarnished its reputation after it emerged relatively unscathed from the financial crisis. For the SEC, emerging from the embarrassment of a series of lapses, the charges and the settlement were a high-stakes opportunity to prove it could be tough on Wall Street.

And the agency's sweeping investigation of the conduct of financial firms in the run-up to the mortgage market collapse could bring more cases.

The deal calls for Goldman to pay a \$535 million fine and \$15 million in restitution of fees it collected. Of the total \$550 mil-

lion, \$300 million will go to the government and \$250 million goes to compensate two European banks that lost money on their investments.

The penalty was said to be the largest against a Wall Street firm in SEC history. But the settlement amounts to less than 5 percent of Goldman's 2009 net income of \$12.2 billion after payment of dividends to preferred shareholders—or a little more than two weeks of net income.

Word that Goldman had settled began leaking about a half-hour before stock markets closed and appeared to please investors. Goldman had been trading at about \$140 a share. The stock rose to close at \$145.22, up \$6.16, and shot up to \$151.95 in after-hours trading.

The SEC had alleged that Goldman sold mortgage-related investments without telling buyers that the securities had been crafted with input from a client that was betting on them to fail.

The securities cost investors close to \$1 billion while helping Goldman client Paulson & Co. capitalize on the housing bust, the SEC said in the charges filed April 16.

Nation

BP finally stops oil spewing from Gulf gusher

NEW ORLEANS (AP)—The oil has stopped. For now. After 85 days and up to 184 million gallons, BP finally gained control over one of America's biggest environmental catastrophes Thursday by placing a carefully fitted cap over a runaway geyser that has been gushing crude into the Gulf of Mexico since early spring.

Though a temporary fix, the accomplishment was greeted with hope, high expectations—and, in many cases along the beleaguered coastline, disbelief. From one Gulf Coast resident came this: "Hallelujah." And from another: "I got to see it to believe it."

If the cap holds, if the sea floor doesn't crack and if the relief wells being prepared are completed successfully, this could be the beginning of the end for the spill. But that's a lot of ifs, and no one was declaring any sort of victory beyond the moment.

Pressure testing

How engineers are using the newly-installed sealing cap to perform a pressure test on the cap and the well bore below the seafloor:

• **Government agreed to BP's plan if data is reviewed every six hours; test may take 48 hours**

1. Lines closed to collection surface vessels; oil flows out only through cap's top and its choke and kill lines
2. Valve inside cap and kill line closed
3. Choke line closed slowly; may take two hours; frequent pressure readings taken
4. Well closed; if pressure readings low, test stops; if readings high, test continues

After test, all valves reopened; officials will decide next steps

Risk

Pressure could blow oil through weak spots in well casing making well kill more difficult

Bad news

Low pressure readings indicate oil leaking out; well bore could be damaged

Connects to manifold and up to vessels

Good news

High pressure readings indicate pressure can be maintained, well is intact

Source: Deepwater Horizon Incident Joint Information Center
Graphic: Judy Treible, Tim Goheen

© 2010 MCT

The oil stopped flowing at 3:25 p.m. EDT when the last of three valves in the 75-ton cap was slowly throttled shut. That set off a 48-hour watch period in which—much like the hours immediately after a surgery—the patient was in stable, guarded condition and being watched closely for complications.

"It's a great sight," said BP Chief Operating Officer Doug Suttles, who immediately urged caution. The flow, he said, could resume. "It's far from the finish line. ... It's not the time to celebrate."

Nevertheless, one comforting fact stood out: For the first time since an explosion on the BP-leased Deepwater Horizon oil rig

killed 11 workers April 20 and unleashed the spill 5,000 feet beneath the water's surface, no oil was flowing into the Gulf.

President Barack Obama, who has encouraged, cajoled and outright ordered BP to stop the leak, called Thursday's development "a positive sign." But Obama, whose political standing has taken a hit because of the spill and accusations of government inaction, cautioned that "we're still in the testing phase."

The worst-case scenario would be if the oil forced down into the bedrock ruptured the seafloor irreparably. Leaks deep in the well bore might also be found, which would mean that oil would continue to flow into the Gulf. And there's always the possibility of another explosion, either from too much pressure or from a previously unknown unstable piece of piping.

The drama that unfolded quietly in the darkness of deep water Thursday was a combination of trial, error, technology and luck. It came after weeks of repeated attempts to stop the oil—everything from robotics to different capping techniques to stuffing the hole with mud and golf balls.

The week leading up to the moment where the oil stopped was a series of fitful starts and setbacks.

Robotic submarines working deep in the ocean removed a busted piece of pipe last weekend, at which point oil flowed unimpeded into the water. That was followed by installation of a connector that sits atop the spewing well bore—and by Monday the 75-ton metal cap, a stack of lines and valves latched onto the busted well.

After that, engineers spent hours creating a map of the rock under the sea floor to spot potential dangers, like gas pockets. They also shut down two ships collecting oil above the sea to get an accurate reading on the pressure in the cap.

As the oil flowed up to the cap, increasing the pressure, two valves were shut off like light switches, and the third dialed down on a dimmer switch until it too was choked off.

And just like that, the oil stopped.

It's not clear yet whether the oil will remain bottled in the cap, or whether BP will choose to use the new device to funnel the crude into four ships on the surface.

Federal prosecution of immigrants soared in spring

FRESNO, Calif. (AP)—Federal prosecutions of immigrants soared to new levels this spring, as the Obama administration continued an aggressive enforcement strategy championed under President George W. Bush, according to a new study released Thursday.

The 4,145 cases referred to federal prosecutors in March and April was the largest number for any two-month stretch since the Immigration and Customs Enforcement agency was created five years ago, the Syracuse University-based Transactional Records Access Clearinghouse found. They ranged from misdemeanor illegal entry to prosecutions of immigrants with criminal records.

PHOENIX (AP)—Arizona's impending immigration law went before a federal judge for the first time Thursday, and attorneys for both sides sparred over who had the right to enforce immigration law: local officials or



Gerardo Torres protests Arizona's immigration law SB1070 outside the Sandra Day O'Connor Federal Courthouse Thursday, July 15, 2010 in Phoenix. Protesters were outside the federal courthouse amid tight security for a hearing on a challenge to Arizona's immigration law, SB 107.

the federal government.

U.S. District Judge Susan Bolton didn't rule on whether to block the law from taking effect July 29, or whether to

dismiss the lawsuit, one of seven. Hearings in two other lawsuits—including one filed by the federal government—are set for July 22, and the judge has been careful to give no hints on who she might favor.

At stake is more than just who can detain illegal immigrants within U.S. borders. If Bolton rules in Arizona's favor, it opens the door to states taking on issues that have long been the responsibility of the federal government.

The government's heavy focus on immigration investigations already is creating a heavy burden for the swamped courts along the U.S.-Mexico border, whose judges handle hundreds more cases than most of their counterparts in the rest of the country.

Federal authorities claim that workload would grow if Arizona's controversial new immigration law were implemented. The new law requires police,

while enforcing other laws, to check the immigration status of anyone they have a reasonable suspicion is in the country illegally. It will take effect July 29 unless blocked by a court.

"People already are working 10- or 12-hour days and on weekends to just meet the caseload," said Matt Dykman, a U.S. District Court clerk for the District of New Mexico, where the percentage of cases referred by Customs and Border Patrol increased by 54 percent from February to April this year. "It's not an eight-hour day, because you have to process them and get them in court for that detention hearing."

Some of the increase may be due to seasonal upticks in the flow of migrants, who often tend to cross the border in time for the summer harvest or other temporary work, Dykman said. Hundreds of acres of fruit and vegetable crops are ripening in California's Central Valley, for instance, where farm laborers flock in the warm months seeking jobs picking and harvesting.

Lawyer: Some CIA interrogation tactics not OK'd

WASHINGTON (AP)—One of the key Bush administration lawyers in the evolution of the CIA's interrogation program cast doubt on whether the Justice Department approved some of the harsh steps the agency took to get terrorist suspects to talk.

Former Assistant Attorney General Jay Bybee's remarks were contained in a transcript sent to the special prosecutor investigating CIA interrogations by House Judiciary Committee Chairman John Conyers,

D-Mich., who also made a copy public on Thursday.

Interviewed by Judiciary Committee members on May 26, Bybee stressed the limits that he helped set on how far the CIA could go while at the same time acknowledging that his legal advice helped pave the way for tactics such as waterboarding, which evokes the sensation of drowning.

"I do wish to repeat that we said on page 2 of the techniques memo ... that repetition will not

be substantial" on waterboarding, Bybee reminded the committee in quoting from one of his own legal memoranda.

The professed mastermind of the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks, Khalid Shaikh Mohammed, was waterboarded 183 times. Terrorist suspect Abu Zubaydah was subjected to the procedure at least 83 times.

"We were not given any number of sessions as a range by the CIA," Bybee told the committee. Now a federal appeals court

judge, Bybee said there is "ambiguity" as to whether 83 and 183 refer to the number of times water was poured on a detainee, the number of sessions in which waterboarding was used or something else.

What the Justice Department lawyers advised was that if "there are substantial repetitions, we told the CIA 'you don't have a legal opinion from us'" providing legal protection for an interrogator's conduct, Bybee said.

ACROSS THE NATION

Friends say accused serial killer dropped hints

LOS ANGELES (AP)—In hindsight, the investigation into the Grim Sleeper serial killings could have led to suspect Lonnie Franklin Jr.'s doorstep much sooner. He lived in the same neighborhood where the serial killer stalked prostitutes and drug addicts over 22 years. He spoke openly about his contempt for prostitutes and said they deserved to die. He displayed photographs he'd taken of women in sexually explicit poses. He had a lengthy criminal record that included 15 arrests. Now that police have identified Franklin as the man suspected of killing 10 young black women in the case, residents in this working-class Los Angeles neighborhood worry they missed warning signs and wonder if they should have alerted authorities.

Miss. man charged with post-Katrina hate crime

NEW ORLEANS (AP)—A Mississippi man was charged Thursday with firing a shotgun at three black men in New Orleans who were wounded in what prosecutors said was a racially motivated attack in Hurricane Katrina's aftermath. Roland Bourgeois Jr., a 47-year-old white man, is charged in a five-count indictment with firing a shotgun at the men in the city's historic Algiers Point neighborhood on the south side of the Mississippi River while they tried to leave the center of the city after the August 2005 hurricane. Bourgeois and others discussed shooting black people and defending the neighborhood from "outsiders" after the storm, the indictment says. He allegedly bragged that he "got" one after the shooting, then retrieved a bloody baseball cap belonging to one of the victims.

Ship junked 200 years ago uncovered at WTC site

NEW YORK (AP)—The ship was buried as junk two centuries ago—landfill to expand a bustling little island of commerce called Manhattan. When it re-emerged this week, surrounded by skyscrapers, it was an instant treasure that popped up from the mud near ground zero. A 32-foot piece of the vessel was found in soil 20 feet under street level, amid noisy bulldozers excavating a parking garage for the future World Trade Center. Near the site of so many grim finds—Sept. 11 victims' remains, twisted steel—this discovery was as unexpected as it was thrilling. Historians say the ship, believed to date to the 1700s, was defunct by the time it was used around 1810 to extend the shores of lower Manhattan.

Asia

NKorea demands its own probe into ship sinking

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—North Korea's military renewed calls to conduct its own investigation into the March sinking of a South Korean warship during rare talks with the U.S.-led U.N. Command, the first since the deadly incident.

An international team of investigators concluded in May that a North Korean submarine fired a torpedo that sank the 1,200-ton Cheonan, killing 46 South Korean sailors in what Seoul called the worst naval attack on the South since the 1950-53 Korean War.

The U.S. and South Korea called the sinking a violation of the armistice that ended the fighting in 1953. Pyongyang denies any responsibility for the sinking of the ship, and has warned that any punishment would trigger war.

Last week, the U.N. Security Council approved a statement that condemned the sinking—but stopped short of directly blaming North Korea.

On Thursday, colonel-level officers from North Korea and the U.N. Command met for 90 minutes at the border village of

Panmunjom inside the Demilitarized Zone, the U.N. Command said.

North Korean military officers stressed that Pyongyang inspectors should be permitted to go to the site of the sinking to verify those results, North Korean state media said in a dispatch late Thursday.

"Field investigation by an inspection group ... should precede under any circumstances to ensure the successful opening of the general-level talks," the official Korean Central News Agency said from Pyongyang.

Southern China braces for Typhoon Conson landfall

BEIJING (AP)—Southern China braced for torrential rains and lashing winds Friday as Typhoon Conson crept toward land after killing 38 people and leaving a trail of destruction in the Philippines.

Conson had been downgraded to a tropical storm after blowing out of the Philippines but strengthened again into a typhoon late Thursday with winds of 75 miles per hour (120 kilometers per hour), China's National Meteorological Center

said. It was expected to make landfall on Hainan island Friday afternoon or evening.

In addition to Hainan, parts of Guangdong province and neighboring Guangxi region will see torrential rains over the next 24 hours as Conson moves toward the northwest at 9 to 13 mph (15 to 20 kph).

The typhoon killed at least 38 people in the Philippines, but emergency crews restored electricity to Manila and nearby

provinces on Luzon island on Thursday as normalcy crept back. Authorities continued the search for 47 missing people and started to repair the damage caused by the year's first major typhoon.

Philippine President Benigno Aquino III, in a nationally televised emergency meeting, scolded the weather bureau for failing to predict that Conson would hit Manila, which left government agencies unprepared for the onslaught.

2 US troops killed by bomb blast in Afghanistan

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP)—Two U.S. service members were killed in a roadside bombing in restive southern Afghanistan, where thousands of American troops have been deployed to wrest back control of insurgent strongholds.

Also in the south, gunmen kidnapped five Health Ministry employees in volatile Kandahar province while insurgents killed a district official elsewhere, re-

portedly on the orders of the Taliban supreme leader, officials said Thursday.

Insurgent bombings, gunbattles, assassinations and abductions have skyrocketed this year. The circumstances surrounding the deaths of the two American troops were unclear as NATO released no more details.

Members of a medical team were abducted Wednesday

while returning to Kandahar city, the provincial capital, after visiting a project in Maiwand district, provincial spokesman Zulmi Ayubi said Thursday.

Gunmen forced the car to stop about a mile (two kilometers) outside Maiwand and kidnapped two doctors, a pharmacist, a nurse and their driver, Ayubi said. The Health Ministry issued a statement calling for their release.

ASIAN BRIEFS

No breakthroughs: Pakistan, India to keep talking

ISLAMABAD (AP)—India said it was hopeful Pakistan would pursue new leads in the deadly Mumbai attacks, even as it was clear following high-level talks Thursday that the two countries are nowhere near resolving key issues that have sparked three wars between them over the past six decades. Indian External Affairs Minister S.M. Krishna became the most senior official to come to Pakistan since the November 2008 attacks, which left 166 dead and which India blames on Pakistan-based militants. The result of meetings with his Pakistani counterpart basically came down to one thing: an agreement to talk again in the future. In an often tense press conference Thursday night, both sides termed the talks useful, but

avoided divulging details on how they plan to tackle major obstacles to peace, including the fate of the disputed territory of Kashmir.

Mass grave of communist soldiers found in Vietnam

HANOI, Vietnam (AP)—An official says a mass grave has been found containing the remains of 11 communist soldiers killed during the Vietnam War. Dinh Van Phu of the military command in central Dak Nong province says it took excavators nearly two weeks to recover the remains. Phu said Friday the communist soldiers were believed killed during an attack on a base of the U.S.-backed South Vietnamese army in 1966. Phu says two former South Vietnamese soldiers who fought in the battle informed authorities of the grave.

Rare Sumatran tiger kills an Indonesian farmer

BANDA ACEH, Indonesia (AP)—A rare Sumatran tiger has mauled a cocoa farmer to death in Indonesia's province of Aceh, a conservationist and witnesses said Thursday. The mangled body of Cut Hasan was found Wednesday in a mountainous area about 12 miles (20 kilometers) away from his plantation in Pucok village, said Abubakar Cekmad, head of the local conservation agency. The area is on the northern tip of Sumatra island, where about 150 Sumatran tigers still live in the wild. The 48-year-old Hasan reportedly disappeared Monday while working on his plantation, and many villagers have been searching for him since, said the village head Muhammad Sabi Basyah.

World

Vatican revises its rules on clerical sex abuse

VATICAN CITY (AP)—The Vatican revised its in-house rules to deal with clerical sex abuse cases Thursday, targeting priests who molest the mentally disabled as well as children and doubling the statute of limitations for such crimes.

Abuse victims said the rules are little more than administrative housekeeping since they made few substantive changes to current practice, and what is needed are bold new rules to punish bishops who shield pedophiles.

Women's ordination groups criticized the new rules because they included the attempted ordination of women as a "grave crime" subject to the same set of procedures and punishments meted out for sex abuse.

The rules, which cover the canonical procedures and penalties for the most serious



Vatican spokesman Rev. Federico Lombardi, talks to the media during a briefing to present a new set of norms The Vatican issued to respond to the worldwide clerical abuse scandal, cracking down on priests who rape and molest minors and the mentally disabled, at the Vatican, Thursday, July 15, 2010.

sacramental and moral crimes, were issued as the Vatican confronts one of the worst scandals in recent history: revelations of hundreds of new cases of

priests who raped and sodomized children, bishops who covered up for them, and Vatican officials who stood by passively for decades.

At least 20 killed in bombings in southeast Iran

TEHRAN, Iran (AP)—Twin bombings killed at least 20 people outside a mosque in southeastern Iran on Thursday—including members of the powerful Revolutionary Guard—in attacks that came less than a month after Iran hanged the leader of a militant insurgent group in the region.

Iran's official IRNA news agency quoted the deputy governor of the Sistan-Baluchistan province, Jalal Sayyah, as say-

ing the explosions tore through a crowd of Shiite worshippers near the main mosque in the provincial capital of Zahedan.

The deputy interior minister in charge of security, Ali Abdollahi, told the semi-official Fars news agency that members of the Revolutionary Guard—the country's most powerful military force—were killed in the blasts, which appeared to be the work of suicide bombers.

The first blast struck at 9:20 local time (1650GMT), with the second following minutes later, outside the mosque where a group of Shiite worshippers were attending ceremonies marking birthday of the Prophet Muhammad's grandson, IRNA said.

The head of the province's medical emergency department, Fariborz Rashedi, told IRNA at least 20 people were killed and around 100 wounded.

WORLD BRIEFS

Argentina legalizes gay marriage in historic vote

BUENOS AIRES, Argentina (AP)—Argentina became the first Latin American nation to legalize gay marriage Thursday, granting same-sex couples all the legal rights, responsibilities and protections that marriage brings to heterosexuals. The law's passage—a priority for President Cristina Fernandez's government—has inspired activists to push for similar laws in other countries, and a wave of gay weddings are expected in Buenos Aires. Some gay business leaders are predicting an economic ripple effect from an increase in tourism among gays and lesbians who will see Argentina as an even more attractive destination. But it also carries political risks for Fernandez and her husband, former President Nestor Kirchner. The vote divided their governing coalition, and while gay rights have strong support in the capi-

tal, anti-gay feelings still run strong in much of Argentine society, where the vast majority of people are Roman Catholic.

3 killed in drug gang attack on police in Mexico

CIUDAD JUAREZ, Mexico (AP)—Members of a northern Mexico drug gang rammed a car bomb into two police patrol trucks Thursday in the border city of Ciudad Juarez on Thursday, killing two officers and a medical technician, and wounding nine people. Federal police said the attack—which may be one of the first uses of an explosive-packed car in Mexico—was in retaliation for the arrest of a top leader of the La Linea drug gang, Jesus Acosta Guerrero, earlier in the day. Seven officers and two civilians were wounded in the attack, said a state police source who was not authorized to be quoted by name. He said the compact passenger car had apparently been carrying some

kind of explosive or inflammable device when it rammed the police pickup trucks.

Fidel Castro in public again, at aquarium

HAVANA (AP)—There's just no keeping Fidel Castro at home these days. The aging revolutionary is suddenly popping up everywhere, most recently at Cuba's National Aquarium on Thursday to take in a dolphin show and chat with aquarium employees, according to a report and photos in the state-run news website Cubadebate. After four years of near total seclusion, it was the 83-year-old former president's fourth appearance in less than a week. Photos of Castro's visit to a scientific think tank were published Saturday. He was interviewed on national television on Monday about his theory that the world is on the brink of a possible nuclear war. And he talked to academics at an economics institute on Tuesday.

Maharlika

PINOY LIFE IN THE MARIANAS

Saturday, July 17, 2010

'Basyang' death toll, 38; 47 missing—NDCC

MANILA, Philippines—The death toll from typhoon "Basyang" (international codename: Conson) climbed to 38 while 47 persons have remained missing, the National Disaster Coordinating Council said Friday.

In its 6 a.m. report, the NDCC identified the casualties from Region III (Central Luzon) as: Alex Perpenia, Ruben Ducay and Marcelino Juson, Odoy Diwalan, Edwin Ledesma, Apas Calipayad, Regie Nodalo, Marcelo Abella, Noel Saloman, Leoncito Umppad and a certain "Eddie."

From Region 4-A (Calabarzon), the casualties were identified as: Myrna Alegre, Marcelina Batan, Frederico Caringal, Alfredo Benchor, Nelson Solomon, Romeo de Vera, Crisostomo Awid, Avelino Borromeo, Inez de Leon, Ben Garcia, Victorino Capunan, Maximo Lantical, Efrén Ledesma, Bayani Rehensia, Alvin Magadia, Nestor Sollestre, Albert Jhin Fortunato and four other children.

Those from Region 5 (Bicol) were identified by the NDCC as Bendinita Redota, Joel Barza, Gilbert Baynosa, Jr. And Marvin Villen.

Meanwhile, the number of missing people climbed to 47 with one person from Region III, eight from Region 4-A and 37 from Region 5.

The NDCC identified the missing victim from Region 3 as Robert Cabero from Subic Zambales while the eight missing from Region 4-A as Felix Awid and Roberto Marabilla both from Calamba City; Carlo Ragos of



Bodies of fishermen lie on the street after being retrieved by authorities at Mariveles township, Bataan province 80 kilometers (50 miles) west of Manila, Philippines on Thursday July 15, 2010, after Typhoon Conson barreled into the main island of Luzon.

AP

Tagaytay City; Precilla Yuldi Patawi, Jessie Regeni, Julie Regeni, Amando Garbantes and a two year-old boy who were passengers of a capsized boat in Laurel Batangas.

In Catanduanes, 15 fishermen are still missing identified as Melchor Chavinia, Crispin Fajardo, Rodolfo Fajardo, Eddie Cordez, Ronnie Dejardo, Jose Rojo, Jeven Evangelist, Ramon dela Cruz, Raymundo dela Cruz, Rudy Evangelista, Noel Briones, Antonio Tayoto, Alex Azicate, Jason Arcilla and Marlon Tayoto.

Four persons were reported missing from Lagonoy, Camarines Sur who were identified as Julian Collada, Lito Oreta, Eddie Oreta and Sisong D. Meanwhile, five others were reported missing from Camarines Norte. The NDCC identified the victims as Ryan Avila, Enrico Lazado, Lirio Buenaventura, Catoy Azutea and Ramil Villen.

At least 18 others were reported injured from Bataan, Laguna and Catanduanes.

Basyang entered the Philippine territory Monday and made landfall in Northern Quezon late Tuesday. It was forecast to head towards Central Luzon but shifted direction and passed over Metro Manila around midnight of Tuesday. (*INQUIRER.net*)

'Basyang' road, crop damage reaches P147.5M

MANILA, Philippines—Damage to agriculture, fisheries, and infrastructure in four regions due to "Basyang" (international name: Conson) has reached P147.556 million, said the National Disaster Coordinating Council on Friday.

In its latest report, the NDCC said that the damage to roads, bridges, schools and health facilities in the National Capital Region, Regions 4-A (Calabarzon), 4-B (Mimaropa), and 5 (Bicol) was at P75.822 million.

A total of 23 schools were affected in

the provinces of Rizal, Laguna, Marinduque, Camarines Norte and in Muntinlupa City here in Metro Manila.

Meanwhile, damage to the agriculture and fisheries sectors was estimated at P71.734 million.

At least P15.512 million worth of rice and corn crops and P33.545 million worth of fruits and vegetables were destroyed by Basyang. The vegetables included 71,274 metric tons from 207 hectares of farm land in Laguna and were valued at P1.398 million.

The fishing industry also incurred

P22.68 million in damages in the affected regions, the NDCC said.

A total of 2,591 houses were totally destroyed by Basyang in Regions 3, 4-A, 4-B and 5 while 16,067 were partially damaged.

The affected population has reached 30,644 families or 153,426 persons from 411 affected villages from the provinces of Aurora, Bataan, Bulacan, Pampanga, Batangas, Cavite, Laguna, Quezon, Rizal, Camarines Norte, Camarines Sur, and Catanduanes. (*INQUIRER.net*)

Meralco: Full power supply back Friday in Metro but...

MANILA, Philippines—Power supply in Metro Manila and nearby provinces is expected to be fully restored by Friday, two days after Typhoon "Basyang" (international codename: Conson) plunged Luzon into darkness early Wednesday morning.

A Luzon-wide blackout was declared at 12:42 a.m. Wednesday. The outage paralyzed not only water service in some areas that depend on motor pumps to draw water, but also the commuter train service in the metropolis.

The Luzon grid recorded a supply deficit of 999 megawatts as of Thursday, prompting Manila Electric Co. (Meralco) to implement rotating brownouts lasting three to four hours.

Meralco said it was targeting 100-percent power restoration within its franchise area by the end of Friday if supply from power plants were adequate.

As of Thursday morning, Meralco reported that 93.4 percent or 4.4 million of its 4.7 million customers had already power supply.

The utility firm has also energized 664 of its 683 distribution circuits (97 percent); 91 of 92 subtransmission lines (99 percent); and 109 of 112 substations (97 percent).

At the circuit level, some 93 percent of its customers in Metro Manila already have power; 96 percent in Batangas; 95 percent in Bulacan; 91 percent in Cavite; 97 percent in Laguna; 95 percent in Pampanga; 96 percent in Quezon; and 88 percent in Rizal.

Basyang cut most of the power and transmission lines when it hit Metro Manila late Tuesday.

The Philippine Coast Guard (PCG), which monitors the country's shores and helps in sea mishap rescue, has appealed to Meralco to prioritize the restoration of power in its headquarters.

The data-gathering and communication systems of the PCG were hampered by the power outage, officials said.

"The PCG is a distress response agency and we need all forms of communication 24/7 ... The PCG is a vital installation," said Coast Guard Adm. Wilfredo Tamayo.

Power was not restored at the PCG even as the walkway of the SuperFerry terminal right across the headquarters had electricity by Wednesday evening, according to PCG spokesperson Armand Balilo. Power was only restored on Thursday afternoon. (*Philippine Daily Inquirer*)

CTSI family mourns loss of a great colleague

By **CLARISSA V. DAVID**
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Colleagues of 57-year old Efrén "Tata Ef" Santos Mejia remember him as a jovial man and a good employee.

Mejia, who worked as an Operations Assistant for Logistics at CTSI Logistics, passed away unexpectedly last July 14 at his residence in Fina Sisú.

"As a worker, I can describe him as an extraordinary guy," said Rey Castro, Air/Sea Fedex Operations supervisor who managed Mejia from 1998 to 2008.

According to Castro, Mejia is the type of employee that you don't have to worry because he got the job done. Castro said Mejia's work ethic was the reason why he was reluctant to give him up when the management decided to transfer him to a different department.

"With him, there's no need for supervision. Just give him instructions and he will finish the job," he added.

From 2008 until his untimely death on Wednesday, Mejia worked under the supervision of CTSI Logistics manager Argie Buensalido.

"I never had problems with him. When you give him a task, so long as you give him instructions, he works on

it from beginning to end. If he doesn't understand any of the instruction, he had the initiative to approach the right person to talk about it," he said.

"He was a fun-loving man. He always had plenty of stories to share. When he says 'o, patak-patak na,' it means we already have to chip in money because we're going to have fun after work," said Buensalido.

Buensalido, who last talked with Mejia at work Tuesday, never thought it was going to be his last conversation with a man he considered his older brother.

"It's difficult for all of us because we miss him," he added.

Jameila Eustacio, account executive for *Saipan Tribune*, said she worked with Mejia back when she was still assigned at the airport location of Fedex.

"He was agile for his age, very systematic at work, and always willing to lend a helping hand," she recalled.

Eustacio said Mejia was always the healthy one that when she heard news about his untimely death, she initially thought it was a joke.

"Since our contract renewal falls on the same month, we go to the clinic at the same time to take our annual physical exam. I was always the one

with inconsistencies, like low blood pressure," she added.

According to Eustacio, Mejia has his way of having a good time after a long day of work. "His favorite line was, *beer lang katapat niyan*," she quipped.

A Mass will be held for Mejia today, 6pm at San Antonio Church and tomorrow, 11am at Mt. Carmel Church. Viewing and memorial service will also be held tomorrow, 5pm to 9pm, at the Commonwealth Health Center Chapel.

Mejia's remains will be flown to Marikina City, Philippines on July 21, Wednesday.



Mejia

Remittances reached record level of \$1.58B in May

By **RONNEL DOMINGO**
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

Remittances from overseas Filipinos that had been coursed through banks hit a monthly record of \$1.58 billion in May, up by 6.5 percent year-on-year, according to the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas.

The BSP said that the figure was the highest recorded for a

single month. Based on the May inflows, remittances for the first five months reached \$7.44 billion, increasing by 6.6 percent from \$6.98 billion a year ago.

BSP Governor Amando M. Tetangco Jr. said in a statement that the money sent by sea-based workers rose by 8.8 percent in May, while those from land-based workers went up by 6 percent.

The steady stream of remit-

tances was due to "the stable demand for professional and skilled Filipino workers worldwide," Tetangco said.

Citing preliminary data from the Philippine Overseas Employment Administration (POEA), approved job orders during the first semester totaled 302,844.

Of the total, 35 percent consisted of processed orders for service, professional, technical, and

production and related workers.

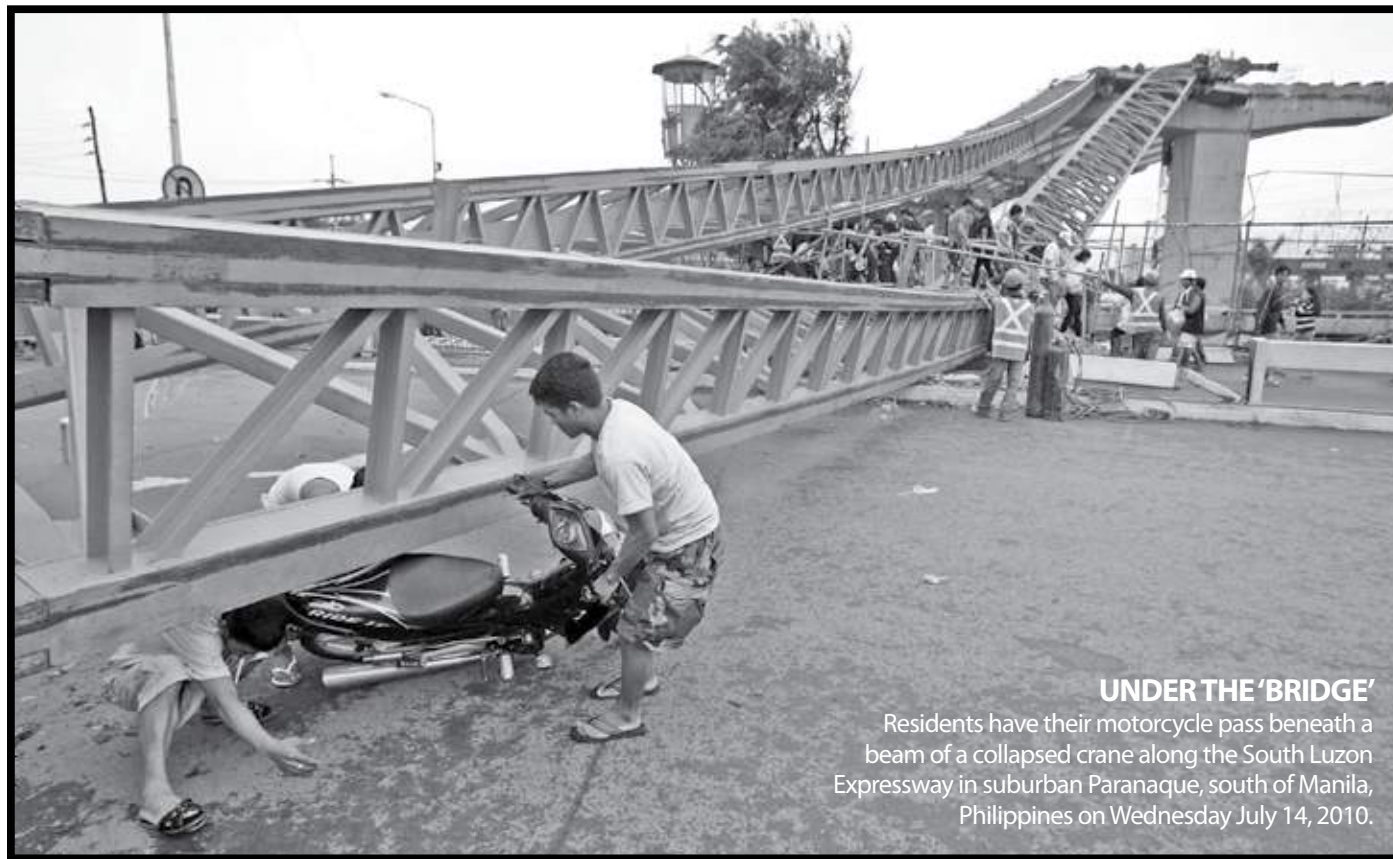
Most were intended for deployment to Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates (UAE) and Taiwan.

The POEA earlier reported that 119 nurses and caregivers would be deployed to Japan later this year. The health workers make up the second that will be sent out under the Japan-Philippines Economic Partnership Agreement.

EXCHANGE RATES	
DOLLAR	PESO
\$1.00	= P46.2

The main sources of remittances in May were the United States, Canada, Saudi Arabia, Japan, the United Kingdom, Singa-

pore, UAE and Italy. Combined inflows from these countries accounted for 81.5 percent of total for the five months to May.



UNDER THE 'BRIDGE'

Residents have their motorcycle pass beneath a beam of a collapsed crane along the South Luzon Expressway in suburban Paranaque, south of Manila, Philippines on Wednesday July 14, 2010.

Slain activist's kin found dead

ILOILO CITY, Philippines—A first cousin of slain Aklan activist and town councilor Fernando Baldomero was shot dead Thursday evening, authorities said, two days before Baldomero's burial.

Zosimo Ingeniero (not Baldomero as police had reported initially), 57, a watchman in Barangay (village) San Ramon in Malinao town, sustained an undetermined number of bullet wounds after he was shot around 8:15 p.m. Thursday near his house in Barangay (village) San Ramon in Malinao town, Aklan, police chief Senior Inspector Aileen Rondario told the Philippine Daily Inquirer in a telephone interview Friday.

While the residents heard shots, it was not until 5:45 a.m. Friday that Ingeniero's body was found. The police recovered three empty shells believed to be from a 9-millimeter pistol from the crime scene.

Aklan police director Senior Superintendent Epifanio Bragais said in a text message on Friday that they were still investigating if Ingeniero's killing was related to the July 5 murder of Baldomero.

Baldomero, provincial chairman of Bayan Muna and a Lezo town councilor, was shot dead by an unidentified gunman in the capital town of Kalibo. *INQUIRER.net*

Aquino on extrajudicial slays: Let results speak

SUBIC, Zambales—President Benigno Aquino III refused to disclose his directives to the Philippine National Police on extrajudicial killings and said he would let the results speak for themselves.

"I will not divulge the specifics of my instructions to [PNP] Director General [Jesus Verzosa] and the DILG [Department of Interior and Local Government] but again may I just point you to Region 6; you will see the results of the splendid work done by the PNP under the stewardship of

General Verzosa," Aquino told reporters during the inauguration of the PNP School for Values and Leadership here.

Aquino was referring to the accomplishments by Region 6 (Western Visayas) police in relation to the killing of Bayan Muna coordinator Fernando Baldomero. Aquino said there would be a press conference later this Friday on the case, but refused to elaborate further.

"And I think we will all be pleased with the results but I don't want to grab credit from the people who actually

worked," Aquino added.

Aquino issued his statement came in the wake of the killing of Zosimo Ingeniero, a local peasant leader and village watchman in Barangay (village) San Ramon, Malinao, Aklan.

For his part, Interior Secretary Jesse Robredo said that the approach against extrajudicial killings should be "institutional" and not "in trickles."

"If this [a killing] happens, automatically there should be a corresponding action instead of we just forming another task force," he said. *INQUIRER.net*

PHILIPPINE BRIEFS

2 dead, 7 hurt in construction accident in Laguna

CAMP VICENTE LIM, Laguna—Two construction workers were killed and seven others were injured when a scaffolding, on which three layers of metal pipes were also piled up, collapsed and hit the victims at a mall construction site in San Pablo City, Laguna, early Friday. Instantly killed were Benie Navarette and Edgar Vasquez while Alvin Donor, Christian Ecleo, Alvin Aniscal, Arnold Obsanga, Richard Vasquez, Salvador Mediado, and Jerson Vidal sustained injuries and were recuperating at the Panlalawigang Pagamutan ng Laguna, also in the city. Superintendent Ferdinand de Castro, San Pablo police chief, said the scaffolding was about five meters above the victims when it snapped and fell at around 3 a.m. De Castro said several metal pipes of various sizes which he estimated to weigh one ton hit the workers. The victims were employed by the SLT Construction Company, which is a contractor

of the SM mall in Barangay (village) San Rafael. The police said they had yet to locate the foreman at the construction site or any other representative of the construction company.

Philippine president says he's tired of text scams

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—Not even presidents are spared cell phone text scams. Philippine President Benigno Aquino III complained to reporters about the time he spent dealing with text messages from a person abroad claiming to be his sibling—and asking for money. Aquino said he responded that he has no relatives abroad, but the texter was persistent and sent three follow-up messages. Aquino said he also received unsolicited offers for car and house loans. The newly elected president was quoted by newspapers as saying that he even considered changing his number, but decided against that because a lot of officials and friends already were using it. (*Philippine Daily Inquirer*)

Neri pleads not guilty to graft on telecoms deal

By **TETCH TORRES, TARRA QUISMUNDO**
INQUIRER.NET, PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

MANILA, Philippines—Former socio-economic secretary Romulo Neri pleaded not guilty Friday to the graft charges filed against him in connection with his alleged involvement in forging the telecommunications contract between the government and a Chinese firm.

In brief proceedings at the Sandiganbayan's fifth division, Neri entered his plea but made no further comment to media.

Neri has been linked to the allegedly anomalous \$329 million National Broadband Network-Zhong Xing Telecommunications Equipment (ZTE) agreement that was forged under the administration of then president Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo.

Neri is being charged with alleged violation of Section 3 (h) of Republic Act 3019 or the Anti-Graft and Corrupt Practices Act for "directly or indirectly having financing or pecuniary interest in any business, contract or transaction in connection with which he intervenes or takes part in his official capacity, or in which he is prohibited by

the Constitution or by any law from having any interest."

Mobbed by reporters after the hearing, Neri said of his plea: "Yes, not guilty. We just have to go through the process."

When one reporter asked whether he at times felt sorry for himself, Neri replied: "Pamin-san-minsan [Sometimes]."

Now out of the bureaucracy, Neri said he would focus on the case first.

"I'll take it easy for a while and focus on this case," he said.

Asked about what he felt, Neri said, "Nalulungkot ako [I am saddened]."

Neri's lawyer Paul Lentejas said Neri was neither considering becoming a state witness nor would he participate in the investigation of the newly assembled Truth Commission.

"Whatever the truth commission will do is irrelevant [because] the case is already in court," Lentejas said.

Neri waited almost an hour for the justices to arrive in the scheduled 8:30 a.m. hearing, which started 30 minutes late. The court turned down his request not to allow media inside the courtroom.

His pre-trial hearing is set on August 20.

IMMIGRATION LAW

Bruce L. Mailman
Maya B. Kara

Available services include

- U.S. Permanent Residence (Green Card)
- U.S. Naturalization/Citizenship
- Employment Based U.S. Visas (H1B, H2B, L1, EB1, E1, E2, and others)
- Status Clarification

Call for Appointment
(670) 233-0081

Law Offices of Mailman & Kara, LLC
Corner of Beach Road and Cpl.
Derence Jack R., Garapan, Saipan

Coast Guard acts to contain oil spills off Cavite, Bataan

By JERRY E. ESPLANADA
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

MANILA, Philippines—The Philippine Coast Guard has “promptly responded” to reported oil spills off the coasts of Rosario, Cavite, and Mariveles, Bataan.

The two incidents were both Tier 1 or small-level oil spills, according to Admiral Wilfredo D. Tamayo, PCG commandant.

The first spill, involving about 560 liters of bunker oil, came from an “underwater pipeline” located two

nautical miles from the Petron oil depot in Rosario. The spill covered some 11,200 square meters off the Rosario coastline.

Initial reports reaching the Coast Guard said a Baliwag Shipping vessel damaged the pipeline while anchoring off the depot.

The second incident involved some 210 liters of oil which affected 100 square meters near the shoreline of Poblacion, Mariveles.

The spill reportedly came from four fishing boats that sank in the area at the height of Typhoon “Basy-

ang”, said Tamayo.

Tamayo also reported on Friday that the PCG had completed clean-up operations at oil spills in Calatagan, Batangas, and Bacolod City.

The PCG, however, had yet to determine the source of the oil spill off Calatagan.

Last week, the PCG took oil samples from four foreign-flagged cargo vessels anchored off the Calatagan coast to determine the source of the spill.

Tamayo identified the ships as *MV Sta. Annabella*, *MV San Cle-*

mente, *MV Sta. Alexandra* and *MV Sta. Fabiola*.

Meanwhile, the PCG found “minimal traces of bunker oil” that surfaced from the broken underwater pipeline of the Chevron oil depot in Bacolod.

“The extent of the affected area is approximately 15 meters in length and two meters in width,” according to Tamayo.

Tamayo assured the public that the PCG “responds promptly to reports of oil spills whether they’re big or small.”



Philippine Coast Guard try to contain oil spill from sunken vessels at Mariveles township, Bataan province 80 kilometers (50 miles) west of Manila, Philippines on Thursday July 15, 2010 following Typhoon Conson lashing into the main Philippine island of Luzon.

AP

PNP: 44 kidnap suspects slain in past 12 months

By JOCELYN R. UY
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

MANILA, Philippines—The Philippine National Police Thursday said 44 kidnap suspects have been killed in encounters with authorities while 40 others have been placed under police custody in the past 12 months.

The “neutralization” of 84 kidnap-for-ransom suspects since June last year was a result of intensified efforts of the Police Anti-Crime and Emergency Response (PACER) to curb kidnapping incidents in the country, according to its chief, Senior Supt. Isagani Nerez.

In a report to PNP Director General Jesus Verzosa, Nerez said PACER operatives have solved 12 kidnapping cases reported during the first semester of 2010.

“This sends a strong message to kidnapping syndicates that the PNP and the entire law enforcement community are serious in fighting lawless elements,” said Nerez.

He attributed the active support of the community to the sharp decline of kidnapping in the country from the 35 cases recorded in the first semester of 2009 to the 12 cases in the first semester of this year.

PACER, which will be celebrating its 8th founding anniversary on Friday, also secured the safe release of at least 29 victims over the past year.

Among the notable rescue operations carried out by the PNP’s anti-kidnapping operative unit include that of Gerald Tiu in Rodriguez, Rizal; Kuljit Singh in Butuan City; Jefferson Cheng, Cabuyao, Laguna; Michelle Tan, Taytay, Rizal and Margaret Kao, San Jose Del Monte, Bulacan.

OFWs contribute to increased savings

Dr. BERNARDO VILLEGAS
INQUIRER.NET

MANILA, Philippines—The impressive growth of 7.3 percent in GDP in the first quarter can be attributed partly to the 7 percent increase in remittances from OFWs, thanks to the continuing strong demand for Filipino skilled workers.

This trend is a continuation of the experience in 2009 when the Philippines was one of the few countries in East Asia to avoid a recession, mainly due to \$17.348 billion remitted by OFWs, defying forecasts of international agencies of a precipitous decline in OFW remittances.

Over the last five years, the substantial incomes remitted by OFWs to their relatives have so contributed to Philippine GNP that the rate of savings to GNP has increased to 30 percent or more, reversing decades during which the Philippines posted the lowest savings rate of 20 percent in the whole of East Asia where savings rate averaged 32 percent (with countries like China and Singapore at 50 percent). That is why today the Philippine financial sector is awash with funds. The problem is how to convince more people to invest.

Recently, BSP Deputy Governor Diwa Guinigundo announced the good news that more beneficiaries of OFWs are increasing their investments which include major purchases of major vehicles. Of course, the largest investments they have made through the years have been in housing, as can be confirmed by real estate companies who have been targeting OFWs and their relatives as a major market. As the Philippine economy traces a new path of growth at 7 percent or more under the Administration of President Benigno Aquino III, there can be more op-

portunities for OFWs and their relatives to invest in small businesses in such growth sectors as agribusiness, tourism, IT services, education, and transport and supply chain.

To encourage OFWs and their relatives to be more active in investment, it is important for the Philippines to follow the example of China, that is, to prevent the peso from appreciating. There is still room for increasing our international reserves, still among the lowest in East Asia. My own view is that a forex rate of 46 to 47 pesos to the dollar is a reasonable compromise between the exporters and the importers. As imports jump in the second semester owing to major investments in infrastructures and mining, which are quite import-intensive, I think that the peso will actually move to the 46 to 47 range.

To allow the government to balance the budget, say by 2013, President Noyonoy’s battle cry during the campaign must be taken very seriously. By fighting the corruption involved in tax evasion and in the diversion of public funds to private pockets, some P400 billion can be raised. These are the amounts estimated by international agencies like the World Bank and Asian Development Bank. Even a partial success in the initial years can yield sufficient amounts to allow the government to do the balancing act between trimming the fiscal deficit and continuing the improvement of physical infrastructures, especially in the countryside.

I would also highly encourage the Aquino government to move quickly to remove from the Philippine Constitution the ultra-nationalistic provisions that discourage foreign direct investments (FDI) in the Philippines. Our emerging market neighbors in the Asean, Indonesia and Vietnam, are getting an average of \$7 to \$10 billion in FDIs annually. Our less than \$2 billion

annual is a pittance. There are emerging markets in East Asia that are awash with capital seeking profitable investments in countries with rich natural resources and bountiful domestic markets like the Philippines. Unfortunately, there are strategic sectors in the Philippines like mining, transport, telecom, infrastructures, education, media, and agribusiness which are still relatively closed to foreign investments because of equity restrictions (for example, no foreigner can own even a one percent equity in any educational or media investment because of constitutional prohibitions). The whole question of foreign ownership of land should be revisited. Even Vietnam, still officially a communist state, allows foreigners to own the land on which they build their factories or their residences.

The amendments to the economic provisions in our Constitution can be done by Congress. There is no need for a Constitutional Convention which can be distracting during these crucial times when our main concern is to hit the ground running to take advantage of the recovering global economy. Our comparative advantage in the East Asian region is still our relatively more literate population with its abundant pool of English-speaking, culturally adaptable, congenial, and hardworking professionals and technicians. We are increasingly the source of middle-level managers and supervisors for countries like Indonesia, Vietnam, and China (for their multinational enterprises).

We are second only to India in Business Process Outsourcing which is expected to expand rapidly as the advanced countries combat recessionary forces by increasingly outsourcing non-vital services to cut down on cost. As all deficit-infested countries in Europe and American try to cut back on social welfare services, like health care, medical tourism in the Philippines may enjoy a boom. The same may be said of our re-

tirement village industry that can benefit from efforts of countries like Japan and South Korea to bring down the costs of caring for their aged by encouraging them to retire in low-cost countries like the Philippines, Thailand, and Malaysia. All these would require the Aquino administration to give high importance to improving the quality of basic and technical education.

The government must not only spend a higher proportion of its budget on public education for the masses. It must also creatively harness the very active private educational sector in producing the appropriate manpower for the strategic industries. Fortunately, some of the leading business conglomerates such as the SM Prime Group, the Yuchengcos, Phinma, Lucio Tan, Emilio Yap, and others are heavily investing in tertiary education. Given a constitutional amendment allowing foreign investors to enter the educational sector, our local universities can get much needed capital and technology to raise the standards of our universities to be able to compete with our Asian neighbors. After all, top universities in Hong Kong, Singapore, Malaysia, Thailand and China are partnering left and right with some of the best universities and business schools in the world like Harvard, Stanford, Cambridge, Northwestern, and INSEAD.

As the Philippine economy transitions from a consumption-led to an investment-led recovery, growth rates of 7 percent or more are attainable. There will be increasing opportunities for many more OFWs to return to the Philippines to invest in entrepreneurial ventures. There will be a virtuous circle of higher savings leading to higher investments which in turn can lead to higher savings. OFWs can surely lead in this optimistic scenario.

For comments, my email is [bvillgas@uap.edu.ph](mailto:bvillegas@uap.edu.ph).

Maharlika – PinoyStyle

Paulino Alcantara: RP legend in world football

By **NESTOR P. BURGOS JR.**
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

ILOILO CITY—With the World Cup fever now waning, basketball-crazy Filipinos should know that they have a hero to inspire them to switch to football as a national passion.

And it's not the great Pelé of Brazil, Argentinian legend Diego Maradona or the current world top player Lionel Messi, also of Argentina, or heartthrob Cristiano Ronaldo of Portugal.

Long before these heroes burst into the global football scene, there was Iloilo-born Paulino Alcantara.

Alcantara, born to a Spanish military officer and an Ilongga mother on Oct. 7, 1896, is considered one of the sport's legends, especially in Spain.

While he is largely unknown to Filipinos and even Ilonggos, he is revered in the world football community with tributes and memorial sites devoted to him in the Internet.

"He may be unknown even to the young players, but he is an icon to many of us," said Pablito Araneta, also from Iloilo and former vice president of the Philippine Football Federation, which groups around 35 football associations in the country.

Alcantara scored an astonishing 357 goals in as many games played, or an average of one goal per game, as a striker of the Futbol Club Barcelona (Barcelona Football Club) where he played from 1912 to 1927, according to the club's website.

Barcelona star

He also helped Barcelona, one of the top clubs in the current Spanish league, win five Spanish championships and 10 Catalan League championships, the first professional football league in Spain during that period.

His strength was legendary. Medium built and lacking the physique of a professional athlete, he, nevertheless, earned the title "El Romperedes (Net Breaker)" on April 30, 1922, after a powerful kick 35 yards from the goal ripped the net in a game between Spain and France.



Iloilo-born Paulino Alcantara, born to a Spanish military officer and an Ilongga mother on Oct. 7, 1896, is considered one of soccer's legends, especially in Spain.

"For many years after, children from Barcelona would recall that moment and would wish to do the same as the man from the Philippines," according to Alcantara's profile in the FC Barcelona website.

Except for online accounts, however, there is little information on Alcantara and his family.

Araneta said a research conducted by PFF in 2007 during the commemoration of the centennial of Philippine football showed that Alcantara's father was a Spanish military officer stationed in Iloilo. Other accounts identified his mother as surnamed Riestra.

No official records

Ilonggo historian and lawyer Rex Salvilla said he has not come across official records of Alcantara and his family, which could explain why he is not well known among Ilonggos.

Salvilla noted that Alcantara was only 2 years old during the Philippine Revolution in 1898. His father, being a Spanish official, could have gone home and brought his family to avoid imprisonment or could have surrendered before taking his family with him to Spain, Salvilla said.

But according to various accounts posted in the website www.world-football-legends.co.uk/alcantara/php, Alcantara came to Spain when he was 14 years old, a year before he debuted with FC Barcelona. He returned to the Philippines in 1916, or when he was 20 years old, and played for two years with the Bohemians, a Filipino football club.

He returned to Spain and resumed playing with his club in 1918 where he rose to become a legend.

On the other hand, in it's Philippine football centennial issue, the Pinoy Football Magazine, published by the PFF, said Alcantara became the young-

est player to wear the FC Barcelona jersey when he started playing for the club when he was 15.

Missing the Olympics

But more than becoming a football star, Alcantara was dedicated to becoming a doctor and did not play in the 1920 Olympic Games to study medicine.

He retired from football in 1927 to dedicate his time to medicine but he briefly coached the Spanish national team in 1951, which was unbeaten in the three matches that he steered the team.

Alcantara died in Barcelona on Feb. 13, 1964, at the age of 67, according to the FC Barcelona website.

It was also during Alcantara's peak that the Philippines became an Asian football powerhouse with the country bagging the gold in the 1913 Far Eastern Games, the forerunner of the Asian Games.

Routing Japan

While Alcantara missed the 1913 games, he played four years later as part of the national team that routed Japan 15-2 in their match in Tokyo.

Japan was among the Asian teams that qualified in the round of 18 in the 2010 World Cup in South Africa.

"That rout of Japan was the highest

that the Philippines had advanced in international football," Araneta said.

World's No. 169

The international football federation Fifa currently ranks the Philippines 169th out of 207 member-countries in men's football.

Despite the Filipinos' preference for basketball and boxing, football players and fans have increasingly drawn inspiration from Alcantara's exploits to raise local awareness and passion for the sport.

A life-size statue of Alcantara was unveiled at the PFF office at the PhilSports Complex in Pasig during the football centennial commemoration in 2007, said PFF general secretary Chito Manuel.

In Alcantara's home province of Iloilo where football is popular especially in Barotac Nuevo town, dubbed the "Football Capital of the Philippines," players and fans can readily cite Alcantara as proof that Filipinos can do well and even be among the greatest in the international football arena.

"We don't have to stop at watching the World Cup and cheering for our idols. A hundred years ago, an Ilonggo already showed us the way to greatness," said Duffie Botavara, president of the Barotac Nuevo Football Club.

Charice raises the bar for int'l singers

NEW YORK—Filipino singing prodigy Charice Pempengco has a long-term plan that involves a different stage than the ones she has occupied since Oprah Winfrey dubbed her the "most talented girl in the world."

Since Oprah featured Pempengco, known simply as Charice, on her talk show in 2008, the pop singer's profile has grown steadily. Although she is just 18, her striking, powerful voice has already shared stages with the likes of tenor Andrea Bocelli and Celine Dion.

Now her single "Pyramid," which she recorded with singer Iyaz and was released in the United States in March from her self-titled debut album, has received US radio airplay, and a remixed version has soared to the top of the US Billboard dance charts.

From lyrics to law books

But the young singer, whose career was in part propelled by initial popularity on video sharing website YouTube, told Reuters she was not getting caught up in all the attention and has a different career path she eventually wants to pursue.

"I want to be a lawyer," she said in an interview with Reuters Television.

"Being a famous singer or an international singer—that's my dream, too, but my main goal is to be a real student and be able to graduate and be a lawyer and have my own business," Charice added.

Although her schedule over this month has her flying throughout Asia on her first big tour in South Korea, the Philippines, Japan, Thailand and Malaysia, Charice said she was using her school books to come down from the rush of playing in concert.

"Some of my friends are giving me law books," she said. "I love reading those. It's like my relaxation."

The singer credits her upbringing



DENNIS VAN TINE/ABACA PRESS/MCT

Charice Pempengco attends the 82nd Annual Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade on the streets of Manhattan in New York City, November 27, 2008. Charice, who recently dropped her last name Pempengco, does think about "it," about joining the ranks of divas so famous they need only one name.

growing up in San Pedro, Laguna, in the Philippines and singing in amateur singing contests as the daughter of a struggling single mother for her drive and ambition.

Mature, bossy

"I'm mature because of my past," Charice said, admitting she could be a little bossy. "At (my) age of 6 years, my mom was getting advice from me."

She already has movie credits to her name, including a brief cameo in the US animated children's movie "Alvin and the Chipmunks: The Squeakquel."

And in late July, she will start working with the cast and producers of US television series "Glee" in Los Angeles.

"I haven't gotten the script yet but I think I'm going to play a foreign student," she said. "I'm really nervous. But I'm trying to be normal and act like myself on the set." **Reuters**

If Binoe has a GF, can Kylie have a BF?

By **DOLLY ANNE CARVAJAL**
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

Robin Padilla's cute daughter Kylie was asked by a makeup artist if she approves of Mariel Rodriguez for her dad. She retorted: "Okay naman sa akin pero kung sila na talaga, dapat payagan na rin ako ni Dad magka-BF." All in love is fair for father and daughter?

Prior to her departure for the United States, Kris Aquino told James Yap that she wanted everything done quickly and quietly. What about the other "Q" word—Questions that remain unanswered?

Could it be true that Pia Guanio has found another love so soon? Is her stint on "Eat... Bulaga!" co-terminus with her romance with Vic, just like his previous GFs?

At a show biz party, her friends were

overheard asking her, "Are you still with Vic? You're too hot for him!"

Jomari Yllana called me on the day of Usher's concert, which his Fearless Productions mounted. He sounded euphoric, saying VIP seats were sold out and he was expecting a full house.

He gave me tickets but, since I'm an MJ fanatic, I opted not to watch. After having watched MJ perform live thrice, any concert would pale in comparison.

My gay "BF," TV reporter Nelson Canlas, who covered the show, told me that Usher played the beat box and wanted to strip, but was afraid he might get arrested.

Joms and his business partners are bringing in John Mayer next in October 1.

A colleague is appalled at how "Pili-

pinas Got Talent champ," Jovit Baldovino has been acting lately.

"At a press con, he said he was too tired to answer questions," my source says. "Pero kapag sa TV ang interview, game siya. Gusto niya may camera parati. Kabago-bago pa lang niya sa show biz. Dapat umayos siya."

FHM's ravishing July cover girl Sam Pinto clarifies that she's not the cause of the rumored breakup of Gerald Anderson and Kim Chui, or Paul Jake Castillo's split-up with his GF. "Pang third party na lang ba ang beauty ko?" she jests.

Could it be true that Wendell Ramos was arrested and jailed for a few days till he posted bail? How did that escape media coverage? Did he learn what he had to learn? We hope he gets his act together, so that the only sentence he gets is to be "Papable" for life.

Maharlika – Opinyon

Aquino's first two weeks

So far, President Benigno Aquino III has navigated the uncharted waters of a new presidency without hitting treacherous shoals and has avoided serious blunders. In his brief Inaugural Address, Mr. Aquino defined the themes of his presidency and established his rapport with the people. It served as the Magna Carta of his political and social compact with them.

Except for the reversal of his Memorandum Circular No. 1, the first order he issued on the first day of taking office, the new President has not made any major gaffe. He promptly rectified this clumsy mistake of declaring vacant the positions of all non-career appointees of outgoing President Macapagal-Arroyo and extended for another month the services of contractual employees.

His Inaugural Address echoed all the right things the people wanted to hear from him: an honest leadership who promised not to steal and to bring to justice those who had been accused of corruption and abuse of power.

During his first two weeks in office, the President has ruled, guided by a sound instinct of what is right or wrong. He has unequivocally laid down the terms of the relationship of his civil government with the military, his relationship with his Vice President, the ambitious Jeymar Binay, and issued "marching orders" to his key Cabinet members, especially the justice secretary, the defense secretary, the finance secretary, and the interior and local government secretary.

The marching orders were general orders, a framework within which Cabinet members can work out specific measures to implement the general directives. The orders reveal the President's philosophy regarding the kind of democratic regime he seeks to shape

during the next six years.

Unlike his predecessor, who took pride in her work ethic to micro-manage the affairs of the state, Mr. Aquino has early on revealed his inclination not to get bogged down in details, but to engage in framing a grand architecture of his policy preferences and priorities. From what he has said so far, the new President has not revealed an overarching strategic view of governing. His priorities have centered on domestic issues with a heavy emphasis on battling corruption and delivering an honest government.

Nothing has been said about foreign policy. Foreign policy is not a strong suit of Philippine governments, and foreign policy issues were salient only in a few presidencies, notably those of Elpidio Quirino and Diosdado Macapagal, who were both visionary in their initiatives to take a leading role in the formation of regional organizations. Ferdinand Marcos did enlarge the foreign policy involvement of the Philippines in the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, but basically his administration's foreign policy focused on special Philippine-US relations, defined by the long-term leases of US military bases in the country, and economic treaties with the United States. The leases were terminated in 1994.

It will take some time before Mr. Aquino will be confronted with issues involving foreign policy conflicts, but he cannot escape grappling with the simmering dispute with China and our Southeast Asian neighbors over their claims to territories in the South China Sea, where we have staked our own claim to some islands in the Spratlys.

Until that dispute heats up with naval encounters in the South China Sea between China and the US Pacific Fleet, the Aquino administration will be tied down to domestic and a parochial concerns, mainly arising from internal house-cleaning, the anti-corruption campaign, and the management of the spiraling fis-

cal deficit that hampers the new government from embarking on initiatives to spur economic growth that will create jobs and help reduce poverty in the country.

In ideological terms, President Aquino is neither Left nor Right, but mostly a centrist. He has not shown any sign that he would use state regulatory powers to curb the growth of oligarchical private business interests competing to gain a stronghold on strategic sectors of the economy such as energy generation and distribution, water, infrastructural development (expressways, roads, railways), and telecommunications. From this perspective, it is too much to expect the President to be a social reformer any more than his mother, the late President Corazon Aquino, was a social reformer.

The President's priorities in regard to bringing closure to the corruption cases of the past administration are likely to tie him down to tedious litigations after the establishment of a truth commission to help in the prosecution of these cases. As of now, the administration is entangled in the dispute with the Office of the Ombudsman, which

has been shown by records to be inclined toward covering up the tracks of the past administration on corruption cases, rather than being fired by a zeal to prosecute. The stubborn refusal of Ombudsman Merceditas Gutierrez to resign her job under pressure from the administration is a sticky matter. The new government considers her presence in the Office of the Ombudsman as a roadblock to bringing the corruption cases to a closure.

Failure to resolve the resistance by the ombudsman to the prosecution of the corruption cases can reduce the Aquino regime into a single-issue government. It can divert its energy from tackling the issues of fiscal deficit, of pumping up economic growth and terminating the anti-insurgency campaign that has been largely responsible for the high level of extra-judicial executions of leftist activists by death squads of Right-wing extremists in the security forces.

EDITORIAL

The meaning of 88 percent

So the results of the first post-election survey are in, and they show President Aquino enjoying extraordinary trust ratings. Since the nationwide Social Weather Stations survey was conducted from June 25 to 28—that is, before the President's well-received "walang wang-wang" Inaugural Address—it is possible that his trust ratings will rise even higher in the next poll.

What is certain is that, at least as far as "pagtitiwala" (the word actually used in the pertinent survey question, raised in Filipino) is concerned, the great majority of adult Filipinos had either "very much" trust (55 percent) or "somewhat much" trust (32 percent) in President Aquino, for a correctly rounded total of 88-percent "much trust" rating, the week he took his oath of office. This represents political capital that is based on, but is in fact distinct, from his massive election mandate.

If we consider that the same SWS survey found that 53 percent of voting-age Filipinos expect President Aquino to meet only "a few" (in the Filipino-phrased question, "mga ilan," but without the giveaway qualifier "lang") of his campaign promises, then the obvious post-election euphoria that is the basis of the President's extraordinary trust ratings should also be seen as an index of his personal popularity. In other words, the people's "trust" is not directly related to any expectations of campaign promise "fulfillment."

Whatever we may think about the causes of this apparent disconnect (the Filipino's readiness to give someone the benefit of the doubt, or our lack of appreciation for a culture of high standards and competence, or even a failure of patriotism), it is clear that President Aquino has been given a rare and enviable opportunity, of using his personal popularity not only to meet the people's expectations, but even to outstrip them.

It also gives his predecessor in Malacañang the opportunity to realize the true wages of unpopularity; popular appeal is not something to be belittled, as Arroyo's various spokespersons tried to do since her legitimacy crisis erupted in 2005, but a potent source of political mandate.

To be sure, even Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo was once popular. And popularity is famously volatile. But even given these necessary reminders, we still think the latest survey results give the President an unprecedented opportunity, specifically to press the case for his "daang matuwid." This means he can afford to admit mistakes even in his first days in office, to recall memorandum circulars or controversial appointments, and still enjoy the public's confidence. This means he can drive the Armed Forces hard on the issue of politically motivated killings or on human rights abuses, and still remain confident that he has the military's backing. This means he can demand, aggressively, that the people take more active part in the business of governance, and still confidently expect majority support.

What is capital, after all, if it isn't invested?

© 2010 Philippine Daily Inquirer



Analysis

By AMANDO DORONILA
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

Remembering Lola Basyang

"Basyang," the typhoon, according to Pagasa, was going to pass through the Philippine area of responsibility. Metro Manila was in her path but no one paid attention because no urgent storm signal was raised.

Typhoons are common this time of year and if it isn't another "On-doy," why bother? Then the howling winds came at dawn. Electricity was cut off. Grouchy from disturbed sleep, people went to work only to be dismissed at noon because power had not been restored and nobody could do any work. Typhoon Basyang was memorable for its fury and the allusion to "Mga Kwentong ni Lola Basyang," these being Western stories and Philippine folk tales retold by the playwright Severino Reyes (1861-1942) who was known in his lifetime as "Don Binoy."

Textbook history has given Reyes the title of "Father of the Tagalog Play" or if you want to be corny about it, "The Lope de Vega of the Philippines." Don Binoy may have not invented "Lola Basyang" because the name came from a real person, Gervacio de Guzman Zamora, a relative of the famous engraver Crispulo Zamora. A real-life "Lola Basyang" was known to Don Binoy, an old lady who loved to narrate stories to her grandchildren.

Don Binoy was a prolific writer. He produced about 26 zarzuelas and over 400 Lola Basyang stories. His literary genes were passed on to Pedrito Reyes (1898-1981), the 15th of his 17 children who is best known for "Ang Martir sa Golgota." Pedrito was half as prolific as his father at home; he sired only nine children, two of whom, Efren Reyes and Johnny Reyes, became movie actors. One could say the dramatic genes were passed on to his grandchildren.

Another grandson, Louie Reyes (no relation to the female pop singer), was president of Vera-Reyes Publishing which printed landmark coffee-table books in the 1970s.

Don Binoy was born in Santa Cruz, Manila, on Feb. 11, 1861. He was educated in the Dominican institutions, San Juan de Letran and University of Santo Tomas. He was imprisoned in Fort Santiago following the outbreak of the Philippine Revolution in 1896 but was released because of his excellent command of Spanish, which impressed his jailers. While he did not join the Revolution in the battlefield, he fought with his pen and wrote for the revolutionary paper La Republica Filipina.

In 1902, he founded Gran Compañia de Zarzuela Tagala which performed his works, earning for him the title of "Father of the Tagalog Play." He was a late bloomer, his first play "R.I.P." (Rest in Peace) was an open attack on the Spanish-period theater form known as "moro-moro" or "comedia." These were theatrical pre-

sentations in verse, with colorful costumes and fantastic sets famous for stylized sword fights between "Cristianos" and "Moros." With "R.I.P.," Don Binoy diminished the comedia and began the age of the zarzuela. Comedia actors out of work would don their costumes, get on horseback and ride past Don Binoy's house shouting, "We cannot die!" while pelting the house with stones. In response to "R.I.P.," they performed a counter-comedia "Kailanman ay Buhay, E. P. D. Resurrexit" whose title says it all: "Forever Alive, E.P.D. It is Risen." Some comedia actors were later co-opted into Don Binoy's zarzuela troupe that toured the country.

"Walang Sugat" (1902) is Don Binoy's most popular play. It was made into film thrice—in 1913, 1939 and 1957. It will be re-staged at the Ateneo de Manila University in August.

The zarzuela is set in Bulacan during the years of the Philippine Revolution, and centers on the lovers, Julia and Tenyong. Their love is tested when Tenyong joins the Revolution and leaves for the battlefield to avenge his father who died in prison from torture ordered by the friars. While Tenyong is away Julia is forced by her mother to marry Miguel the rich nephew of the parish priest. The highlight of this musical play occurs on the day of Miguel and Julia's wedding. Tenyong, mortally wounded, is brought into the church on a stretcher heavily bandaged. He asks for the last rites and interrupts the wedding. Then he asks to marry Julia before he dies. Naturally, Miguel and Julia's mother object but cannot deny the dying man's request. Julia and Tenyong are married and to everyone's

surprise the dying revolucionario rises from the stretcher and removes his bandages to reveal that—you guessed it—walang sugat! (No wound).

I recently received an e-mail inquiry from a great-grandson of Don Binoy asking how to access the remaining papers and manuscripts of Severino Reyes that were allegedly donated or placed in the National Museum for safekeeping. I replied, asking when this donation was made and to whom. I asked if a "deed of donation" or "memorandum of agreement" was signed during the turnover because I would presume these papers would have gone to the National Library or National Archives rather than the National Museum. Writers are only good as long as their works are in print or available in libraries.

Playwrights are only good as long as their works are performed and their manuscripts are available for study. Let's hope the Severino Reyes papers can be located and accessed to bring him to the attention and enjoyment of a new generation. Basyang is more than a destructive typhoon, Lola Basyang is part of our literary heritage.

Comments are welcome at my Facebook Fan Page.



Looking Back

By AMBETH OCAMPO
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

Maharlika – Samu't Sari



FMI CLEANUP

During the eight past Sundays the Friends of the Mariana Islands has been undertaking their cleanup project funded by Mobil Oil Mariana islands, Inc. along Laulau road. While the group has been the "core" of those that have been working on the project, as many as 15 have attended the beautification efforts.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Pictured here are Ciaralyn, Annika (both are FMI young members and Jun (FMI Vice President) as part of Liberation Day cleanup conducted by Beautify CNMI! on the 4th of July 2010.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



MARLIN SEASON

Marlin season begins with a 100-lb blue marlin, caught off the Marpi reef on The Sea Hunter last Saturday, July 10, 2010. In photo is Jenny Markos, manager of the Stars & Stripes.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



PRIDE OF THE MARIANAS

Keith Felix Calvo Cruz participated in graduation ceremonies at Stanford University on June 13, 2010. He is a candidate for a Bachelor of Arts degree in International Relations. Cruz was a 2005 salutatorian at Fr. Duenas Memorial School. He also attended Mount Carmel School and Marianas Baptist Academy on Saipan and St. John's Episcopal School in Tumon, Guam. In the photo are, from left, his stepfather Vicente Mesa, mother Josephine Calvo Mesa, Keith Cruz, brother Dr. Jeffrey R.C. Cruz, who is an intern at UC Irvine Medical Center, and father attorney Robert G.P. Cruz. Keith celebrated the occasion with 100 guests at PF Chang's Chinese Bistro in Sunnyvale.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



PROCLAMATION SIGNING

Acting Gov. Eloy S. Inos and Chief Justice Miguel S. Demapan sign a proclamation declaring July 18 to 24 Probation, Parole and Community Supervision Week at the Guma Hustisia in Susupe yesterday morning.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO



BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT

Advanced happy birthday shout-out going to Russell Hocog who will celebrate his 16th birthday this Sunday, July 18, 2010! Greetings coming out from all your family and friends and si Nino Charisma.

Happy, happy birthday going out to Mai Mai Sakai-Peters who is all grown up and celebrating her 3rd birthday this Sunday, July 18, 2010. Much love coming from your family and Nino Charisma.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Belated happy 14th birthday to our daughter/sister JackLynn Saralu, who celebrated her special day on July 16. We love you! "We are blessed with an angel, like heaven might send, and we call her JackLynn, our daughter." Much love, Mom, Dad, Adela, Kindu-Boy, and Lynneisha.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Young Style

Snack attack: Schools try to get the junk out

By MICHELLE LOCKE
FOR THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—It's not hard to figure out that stocking school vending machines with sugary sodas and salty, fatty snacks is a bad idea. Replacing those culinary culprits with something more nutritious is tougher.

But a growing number of school districts around the country are trying anyway.

"I can't say enough for what it does for the kids to have the junk out of the machines," says Patricia Gray, who as former principal of San Francisco's Balboa High School oversaw a switch to healthier snacks.

"It was not an easy task," says Gray, now an assistant superintendent with the district, "it was a re-education process."

Efforts to get empty calories out of students' hands are being made in almost every state, according to the Centers for Disease Control. A 2008 School Health Profiles Survey found that fewer secondary schools were selling less nutritious snacks compared with two years before.

Among the findings: Across 34 states, the median percent of secondary schools that ditched non-nutritious snacks increased from 46 percent in 2006 to 64 percent in 2008.

Still, the report found more progress needs to be made.

How big a deal is what kids eat at school?

According to the Institute of Medicine and the National Center for Health Statistics, the average young person gets more than 10 percent of his or her calories from saturated fat, takes in less than two-thirds the recommended intake of calcium and more than double the recommended amount of sodium. And for boys and girls ages 9 to 13, 21 percent get more than one-fourth of their energy intake from added sugars.

Food in the lunch and breakfast programs must meet nutritional standards to qualify for federal reimbursement, but food sold in other school venues, including vending machines, aren't subject to those requirements.

Some states have passed their own

laws regulating vending machines, including California, which forbids some non-nutritious snacks. In San Francisco, the school board has a stricter policy, passing a wellness policy implemented in the 2003-04 year that banned sodas (this is now part of the state standard, too) and nixed snacks like baked potato chips.

"It may be less bad for you, but that doesn't mean that it's good for you," says Dana Woldow, a leader in the push for better snacks and co-chair of the district's Student Nutrition and Physical Activity Committee.

Things aren't perfect now, but they're "a million times better," than the past when sodas, candy and fried chips were the rule, Woldow said.

Starting this fall, one machine is being piloted in a San Francisco high school that will offer full, reimbursable, meals—fruit, vegetable, milk, sandwich. The "smart" machine will tally up when a student has selected enough items to qualify as reimbursable.

Drinks allowed in San Francisco school vending machines include water, juice, milk and juice/water blends with no added sweeteners, caffeine or herbal supplements. Snacks include yogurt bars, tuna salad and crackers, fruit bars and sunflower seeds.

Healthier snack machines are showing up all over. Jolly Backer, CEO of San Diego-based Fresh Healthy Vending, says the company has machines in 1,700 locations, including schools, across the United States. Offerings include items such as yogurts and fresh fruit. "All the top-selling drinks and snacks that you'd find in a Whole Foods Market you'll find in our machines," says Backer.

Some, like food activist Marion Nestle, say the idea of healthier vending machines is flawed.

"It depends how you define healthy," she said. "If you define healthy as slightly better for you than junk food, they're doing a really good job."

She advocates taking out vending machines and focusing on improving school lunch options.

But Woldow notes that the school day is long with extracurricular activities that can go on for hours after the cafeteria closes, which means students might dash out to corner stores for high-fat, high-sugar snacks. "Isn't it better to offer them healthy choices which are also convenient?" she says.

Science Matters

Insects' sexual light show

Fireflies are well known for flashing their lights in unison to find mates in the dark on summer nights; a new study suggests why they do it.

Firefly mating display

1 Male flashes

while flying, trying to attract an answer from a female

All males in the vicinity flash at same instant

2

Female flashes while clinging to a branch or tree

New study found that females do not respond to flashes that are not synchronized

Standing out in a crowd

Female announces herself by making flashes that are not synchronized with the males' flashes; otherwise, her flash would be lost in the light show

Bioluminescence, the 'living light'

In a remarkable example of parallel evolution, living things in at least 30 different families evolved the ability to make "cold light" from chemical reactions



Source: Andrew Moiseff of University of Connecticut, Science
Graphic: Helen Lee McComas

© 2010 MCT

Brazil kids' bill would outlaw parental spankings

SAO PAULO (AP)—In Brazil, a swat to your child's bottom could soon get you slapped with a warning.

President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva sent a bill to Congress on Wednesday proposing that Brazil join the two dozen or so countries around the world that have moved to curb spanking.

While a law on the books already makes it illegal to abuse children, the new measure explicitly prohibits parents and guardians from using corporal punishment. The measure also would forbid any kind of "cruel or degrading treatment" that humiliates or seriously threatens children and teenagers.

Violators would be given more than a time-out: The statute calls for parents to be warned, or ordered into psychological treatment for repeated offenses. Child protective services could be mandated to intervene in households

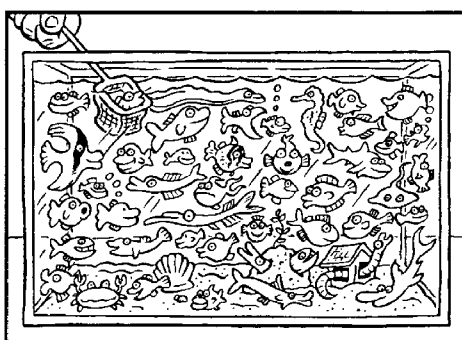
where it continues to be a problem.

"There will be a lot of people saying, 'They want to keep the mother from educating her child, they are trying to keep the mother from getting a flip-flop to gently slap their kid,'" President Silva said.

"We just want to say: It's possible to do things differently," he added. "If punishment and whipping solved things, we wouldn't have so much corruption in this country. We wouldn't have so many bandits in this country."

Sweden became the first nation to outlaw physical punishment of children and teenagers in 1979, according to government news service Agencia Brasil. Twenty-five countries currently have anti-spanking statutes, including neighboring Uruguay and Venezuela, the agency said.

The bill must be approved by the lower house and the Senate.



A FULL TANK AT THE FISH FARM! Try counting all the sea creatures in Fred's tank before he makes another sale!

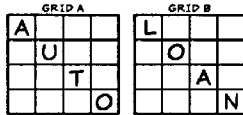
Answer: We counted 44. Did you find that many?

TERRIFIC THREES! Professor Flunkum challenges you to arrange three 3's into a math problem that will equal 20. Do I see a show of hands?

Answer: $3 + 3 + 3 = 20$.

THIS WILL MAKE YOUR CAR GO! Pictured below are two puzzle grids for you to fill in. Hints are given for each word. The words in Grid A contain the same letters as the corresponding words in Grid B.

1. Money for the poor.
2. Belongs to us
3. A poker stake.
4. A rock star.

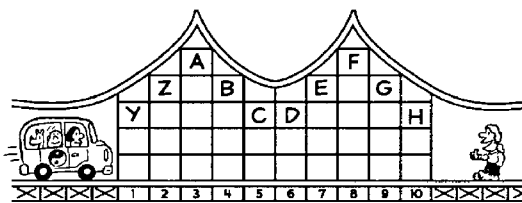


Answers: 1. Alms-lams. 2. Ours-sour. 3. Ante-neat. 4. Bono-boon.

Junior Whirl

by Charles Barry Townsend

A WORD BRIDGE



The bridge to the left contains 10 supporting words. We give you the first letter of each word, plus plenty of hints below.

1. A "yes" vote.
2. Devotion to a cause.
3. French for farewell.
4. To strike forcefully (slang).
5. Comes with corn.
6. To put on.
7. A fencing sword.
8. A Hindu magician.
9. A heckling remark.
10. Used to carry bricks.

Answers: 1. Yea. 2. Zeal. 3. Adieu. 4. Belt. 5. Cob. 6. Don. 7. Epee. 8. Fakir. 9. Gibe. 10. Hod.

Strange BUT TRUE

By Samantha Weaver

■ It was famed 20th-century Canadian-American economist John Kenneth Galbraith who made the following sage observation: "It is a far, far better thing to have a firm anchor in nonsense than to put out on the troubled sea of thought."

■ In Switzerland, it's considered to be bad luck to tell anyone your baby's name before he or she is born.

■ It's been estimated that, around the world, 16 million tons of rain fall every second.

■ Do you ever yawn just because you saw someone else do it? It seems that humans are the only animals so affected.

■ If you've spent a great deal of time in the Scottish highlands, you might be familiar with the term "sgiomlaireachd." Evidently, the habit of dropping in at mealtimes is common enough there to require a word to describe it.

■ Statisticians claim that the more money a man makes, the more likely he is to cheat on his spouse.

■ Mascara was invented by a chemist named T.L. Williams, who founded the cosmetics company Maybelline. The original eyelash enhancer was composed of coal dust and Vaseline.

■ Before the iconic reclining armchair was dubbed "La-Z-Boy," the names "Sit-N-Snooze," "Slack Back" and "Comfort Carrier" were considered.

■ The first jugglers who were recorded in the history books were Egyptian. They also were women.

■ Deaf people who suffer from Tourette's syndrome swear in sign language.

■ Those who study such things say that automatic teller machines are three times more likely to be robbed between 6 and 9 p.m. than at any other time of day.

Thought for the Day: "If you're not scared or angry at the thought of a human brain being controlled remotely, then it could be this prototype of mine is finally starting to work."—John Alejandro King

(c) 2010 King Features Synd., Inc.

CLASSIC MAGIC MAZE • COCKTAILS

P B Q O L J H I E C A X V T R
P L N L J H N F A D B G Y X V
T O C R P I P O M T I L E K A
M O J I T O I E G M I I L T
E D D R N B Z X L W U A B L I
T Y A R Q O O E N U L N M A R
J M A N H A T T A N J Y O B A
I A D A L O C A N I P T Z H G
G R E V I R D W E R C S N G R
F Y D C A E D I L S D U M I A
Y X W V T S Y O R B O R R H M

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions - forward, backward, up, down and diagonally.

Bloody Mary	Manhattan	Mojito	Rusty nail
Gimlet	Margarita	Mudslide	Screwdriver
Highball	Martini	Pina colada	Zombie
Mai Tai	Mint julep	Rob Roy	

© 2010 King Features Synd., Inc. All rights reserved.

GO FIGURE! by Linda Thistle

The idea of Go Figure is to arrive at the figures given at the bottom and right-hand columns of the diagram by following the arithmetic signs in the order they are given (that is, from left to right and top to bottom). Use only the numbers below the diagram to complete its blank squares and use each of the nine numbers only once.

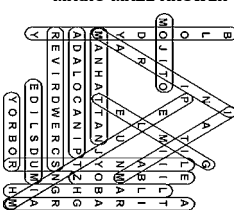
DIFFICULTY: ★★

★ Moderate ★★ Difficult
★★★ GO FIGURE!

	÷		+		11
-		+		÷	
	x		+		13
x		+		+	
	-		x		24
20		6		13	

1 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8
© 2010 King Features Syndicate, Inc.

MAGIC MAZE ANSWER



CLASSIC COCKTAILS

GO FIGURE ANSWER

13	6		20
24	6	x	1
	+		+
13	1	+	3
	+		+
11	7	+	2
		+	8

Vet must find cause of dog's mouth ulcers

DEAR PAW'S CORNER: My dog Caitlen will be 15 next month. Last year she had her teeth cleaned and developed a very bad infection, and since then she has had mouth ulcers. I've been to the vet with her four times trying to solve this. She has been given antibiotics and steroids, and nothing has gotten rid of them all. Caitlen is eating and still has her bathroom times outside. What causes these ulcers, and how do I get rid of them? Were they caused by the original infection?—**Linda J., via email**

DEAR LINDA: I'm sorry to hear of Caitlen's troubles. I'm sure you've already gone to the trouble of switching out her old feeding dishes with new ones, and it's clear that you're keeping a close eye on her behavior and watching for lethargy, drooling or other signs of distress.

According to Janet Tobiassen Crosby, DVM, on vetmedicine.about.com, mouth ulcers can have a number of causes, including bacterial infection and autoimmune disorders. Caitlen's age could also be a factor.

Consider taking Caitlen to a veterinarian who specializes in dermatology. A list of certified veterinary dermatologists can be found at www.acvd.org. The specialist will most likely take a biopsy or a scraping of one (or more)



of your dog's mouth ulcers in order to determine exactly what is causing them. The vet then can prescribe medicine targeting the cause of the ulcer—whether it is a bacterial infection, autoimmune disorder, or something else.

You also might want to consult a vet who specializes in your dog's particular breed—as some breeds are more susceptible to certain illnesses than others—or a vet who deals specifically with older dogs that have an increased array of health needs.

Send your pet questions and tips to ask@pawscorner.com, or write to Paw's Corner, c/o King Features Weekly Service, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475. Find more pet advice and resources at www.pawscorner.com.

(c) 2010 King Features Synd., Inc.

Get household chores done this summer

Has it been a while since you let your hair down as a parent? Well, today's the day to start. The relaxing, less-formal days of summer lend themselves to play and memorable family fun. And it's easy to get in the mode when you include your children at various turns in the day's events.

Thirty-four-year-old Margo Farrell, marketing researcher and mom to 5-year-old daughter Arianna and 1-1/2-year-old son Lucas, has discovered that you can make everyday moments special with the kids, even when checking off errands on a weekend "to-do" list.

"My husband and I lived in West London, England, for five years where we enjoyed walking from our home to the post office, hardware store, restaurants and boutiques," she says. "Walking was such an integral and pleasant part of our lifestyle that we intentionally looked for a family home in a 'walking community' when we returned to the states."

Now in Minneapolis, walking to neighborhood shops to do Saturday errands has become routine. "The kids look forward to the jaunt all week long," she says. "We might pick up a gallon of milk at the co-op, find a birthday gift at the toy store or wander over to the bakery to grab freshly baked breadsticks for a special treat. Whether I have only a few minutes, a half-hour or even an entire summer day ahead of me with the kids, there is so much joy in discovering what is around us, right where we live."

Here are some easy, do-together

Donna's Day Creative family fun

by Donna Erickson

summer ideas to enjoy where you live:

■ On a walk in a park, along a shoreline or in the woods, tell your children to be on the lookout for nature's



"chairs," such as a smooth-sided boulder, tree stump or a cozy patch of grass. Stop, relax and share a special snack that you brought along. Tell a story from the point of view

of a squirrel, blue jay or the ant crawling on your cookie.

■ Visit your local zoo and let your kids be the safari photographers. Organize the photos on your computer when you return, for your own family nature show.

■ Sit on a hillside or special viewing spot and watch a sunset on a summer evening. Take turns describing the colorful changes in the sky.

Donna Erickson's award-winning series "Donna's Day" is airing on public television nationwide. To find more of her creative family recipes and activities, visit www.donnasday.com and link to the NEW Donna's Day Facebook fan page. Her latest book is "Donna Erickson's Fabulous Funstuff for Families."

(c) 2010 Donna Erickson

Distributed by King Features Synd.

Life & Style

'American Idol' season 10 now underway in Nashville

By CAITLIN R. KING
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

NASHVILLE, Tennessee (AP) — The 10th season of "American Idol" is under way in Nashville, and despite the long lines and big dreams of wannabe contestants, there's no denying that something's missing.

"Idol's' going to be different this year first and foremost because (judge) Simon Cowell's not here," supervising producer Patrick Lynn said in an interview. "But secondly, this is our 10th season, we're going into it, and we're really this year are making it about the contestant. It's all about them, and let me tell you, Nashville, the crowd here does not disappoint."

People began lining up for wristbands outside Nashville's Bridgestone Arena early Thursday morning. By 9 a.m., Lynn estimated there were upward of 10,000 people.

Contestants are mixed on Cowell's departure from the show. Some are relieved they won't have to face him; others wish they could get his critique.

Jayson Kim, 22, from Springfield, Missouri, smiled when Cowell's name came up.

"I'm kind of glad," said Kim of the fact that he wouldn't have

to face Cowell in the audition. "He could be mean, and I don't like mean people. So, I'm glad."

Maurice Buchanan, a 28-year-old Christian music singer from Nashville, initially said it was "wonderful" that he would escape Cowell's assessment but then backtracked a little when he thought of Cowell's celebrity.

"I actually wanted to meet Simon," said Buchanan.

Survival instincts kicking in, he reverted back to his original feeling: "But I believe that it's good, that I can actually impress someone else."

Brett Hunter, a 16-year-old student from Hendersonville, Tennessee, defended Cowell's role on the show.

"There's a difference between being mean and being honest, and he always had the honest thing to say," argued Hunter.

Fifteen-year-old Christy Barger from Loretta, Tennessee,

said Cowell was her favorite.

"He made the show funny," she said.

Last year, Barger would've been turned away from auditions because the minimum age was 16. However, producers changed the rules this year to allow 15-year-olds. Lynn said the decision came from a perfect storm of having to turn away talented young people from auditions and the phenomenon of Bieber-fever.

"We have a whole new generation of people that has sort of grown up with 'Idol,'" he said. "We noticed a lot of young people coming out, and then Justin Bieber came along and kind of confirmed all that. So it's kind of hand in hand."

Bieber blasted onto the scene with his 2009 hit "One Time" at age 15.

Even though 19-year-old college student Casey Wright from Moorehead, Kentucky, wasn't affected by the rule change, she believes it was a great idea.

"I say give as many people as you can a chance," she said.

Her 16-year-old sister Corey Wright thought so, too.

"Everyone, no matter what the age, can have a good voice. Let it show," she said.

"Idol's" ratings have slipped

in recent years. Over 24 million viewers tuned in for the finale in May according to Nielsen Co, down nearly 5 million viewers the previous year.

That reality, combined with Cowell's departure is giving pro-

ducers something to think about.

"We're trying to look at the show with fresh eyes this year, to kind of say, 'What's been our biggest successes' and really kind of focus on those," said Lynn. "I think it really comes

down to the people behind me in line. That's what the success of the show relies upon and that's what the show is."

Wristbands will be handed out again Friday in Nashville, with auditions beginning Saturday.



STARS AGAIN

In this file photo of Friday July 9, 2010 the preserved remains of Roy Rogers' horse "Trigger" and dog "Bullet" are on display as Gil Perez, right, a doorman at Christies auction house, wears an outfit and holds a guitar belonging to Rogers, at the auction house in New York. After sitting stuffed and mounted for more than 40 years in a museum, Roy Rogers' horse Trigger and dog Bullet will be TV stars once more. Rural cable network RFD-TV bought Bullet for \$35,000 on Thursday and Trigger for \$266,000 a day earlier at an auction in New York City. RFD-TV owner Patrick Gottsch said the Omaha, Neb.-based network will begin airing old Roy Rogers movies on Saturdays starting November 6. The movie cowboy's son, Roy Jr., will introduce each film, as Trigger and Bullet stand in the background.

AP

In Celebration of His New Life

Steven Matthew Newman
Better known as "Steve"

His Memories will forever live in the hearts of his:

Wife: Olive Newman
Parents: John and Bonnie Newman
Sister: Elizabeth Newman
Brother: Daniel Joel Newman
Mother-In-Law: Angela Malit
Sisters-In-law: Tess / Diego Masga (Rachel, Michelle, Johnndi)
Dalia / Ferdinand Baltazar (Jasper, Justine, Jandell)
Marilou / Gilbert Abarico (Gecka, Lois, Vinz)
Anna / Allan Bantug (Audrey, Bruce)
Charito Seploc (Patricia)
Brother-In-Law: Danilo / Clarissa Malit (Aya)

Thursday July 15, 2010 Viewing 9:00am – 5:00pm
Attrell's Newberg Funeral Chapel
207 Villa Road, Newberg, Oregon 97132
(503) 538-2191

Friday, July 16, 2010 Private Committal
Valley View Memorial Gardens
24235 NE Dayton Ave. Newberg, OR

Saturday, July 17, 2010 Memorial Service 1:00 pm
Attrell's Newberg Funeral Chapel

Your Thoughts and Prayers are highly appreciated.

For more details, please contact
Mr. Juan Lizama at 483-2662



Detectives get recordings in Gibson custody case

By ANTHONY MCCARTNEY
AP ENTERTAINMENT WRITER

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Detectives investigating Mel Gibson on a possible domestic violence case have received audio recordings from a court handling a child custody matter, authorities said Thursday.

Sheriff's spokesman Steve Whitmore said CDs were turned over during a closed session in a custody case involving Gibson and his ex-girlfriend, Oksana Grigorieva.

The Russian singer has reported that the actor-director hurt her during an argument in January.

Thursday's hearing was attended by several sheriff's investigators, including detectives who look into possible child abuse.

Whitmore declined to say whether the investigation into Gibson had expanded. "I'm not going to get into why they're there," he said of the detectives from the Special Victims Bureau.

He said investigators would try to authenticate the recordings, but declined to say how much audio was received from the court.

Gibson and Grigorieva, 40, are locked in a bitter custody dispute over their 8-month-old daughter. Neither one appeared in court for a daylong session on Thursday. The hearing was attended by numerous attorneys, including Gibson's criminal lawyers, Blair Berk and Jim Asperger.

Attorneys for both sides declined comment after the hearing ended around 4:30 p.m.

Gibson, 54, did get some support from his estranged wife, Robyn, who filed a brief declaration stating that the actor-director had never physically abused her or her children. Mel and Robyn Gibson have seven children together, only one of whom is younger than 18 years old.

Like all documents in the custody dispute, Robyn Gibson's declaration is sealed. A source familiar with the case who was not authorized to speak publicly told The Associated Press that Gibson's estranged wife filed the declaration so that people didn't wonder about his conduct during their 28-year marriage.

"She really wanted to set the record straight and protect her family," the source said.

Robyn Gibson filed for di-

vorice in April 2009. The case is ongoing.

Mel Gibson and Grigorieva have been locked in a custody dispute over their infant daughter for several weeks. The former couple reached a confidential custody agreement earlier this year after they broke up, but the matter is now being decided by a family law judge.

It is unclear whether the recordings received by detectives include those that have been posted by the celebrity website RadarOnline.com since Friday. The site has posted more than 20 minutes of recordings of arguments between a man who sounds distinctly like Gibson and a woman identified by the site as Grigorieva.

In the profanity-laced clips, the man is heard using two racial slurs and several derogatory terms for women.

Whitmore said detectives still hope to speak to Gibson, who has not yet been interviewed.

He declined to discuss when the case would be turned over to prosecutors, who will decide whether Gibson should face criminal charges.

"It's not going to be rushed," Whitmore said.

US couple convicted in Stamos extortion case

MARQUETTE, Michigan (AP)—A couple was convicted Thursday of trying to extort \$680,000 from actor John Stamos by threatening to sell old photos of him with strippers and cocaine to the tabloids unless he paid up.

Allison Coss, 24, and Scott Sippola, 31, both of Marquette, were found guilty in federal court of conspiracy and using e-mail to threaten a person's reputation—charges that could land them in prison for up to five years.

Police arrested the two in a sting in December at an Upper Peninsula airport after Stamos reported being the victim of an extortion attempt.

Defense attorneys told the jury it wasn't a crime to offer the images to Stamos before going to the celebrity media. FBI agents, however, testified that a search of the couple's home, vehicles and computer failed to turn up any evidence of embarrassing pictures.

Stamos, 46, was too late to the courtroom to hear the verdict but was present minutes later when the judge polled each juror, a common step in trials. He smiled, looked relieved, and shook hands with the prosecutors.

Sippola was expressionless while Coss wiped her eyes. Sentencing was scheduled for Oct. 8.

Dozens of fans waited to congratulate the former "ER" and "Full House" star as he left the federal courthouse. In a written statement, Stamos said he was "shocked and perplexed" by the "false stories" offered by Coss and defense lawyers.

"These slanderous allegations to smear my reputation were part of their defense to redirect attention away from the federal crime of extortion," he said.

U.S. Attorney Donald Davis praised Stamos for cooperating with authorities.

"Too often victims are afraid to report such crimes for fear of becoming involved in a drawn-out prosecution, and of being re-



Actor John Stamos greets fans Wednesday, July 14, 2010 outside the federal courthouse in Marquette, Mich., during the trial of two people charged with trying to extort money from him.

victimized by the process," Davis said.

There is no dispute that Stamos met Coss in Orlando, Florida, in 2004, shortly after he had separated from his supermodel wife Rebecca Romijn—or that Coss, then 17, attended a party in his hotel room. But their accounts of what happened there differed sharply.

Coss testified that Stamos snorted cocaine, sat nude in a hot tub with the scantily clothed teenager, and made sexual advances as they kissed while lying on a bed.

"There was no hot tub, no drugs, no nudity and nothing sexual in nature involved in my friendship with this woman," Stamos said in his statement. "They lied about everything."

Coss and Stamos kept in touch by e-mail over the years. Coss admitted hatching a plot to bilk the actor after her boyfriend Sippola

found photos of them in Florida.

At first, she sent two messages with a pseudonym claiming to be a girl Stamos had impregnated at age 17. His attorney responded with a lawsuit threat.

Coss then told Stamos a man was harassing her about having incriminating photos of the pair. Stamos said there was nothing to worry about.

"I'll bust him up. ... We didn't take any bad pics. I'm too smart," he said in one e-mail.

Coss and Sippola finally posed as "Brian L," a man who claimed he had pictures of Stamos with drugs and strippers and had been offered \$780,000 in a tabloid bidding war. They offered to sell him the pictures for \$680,000 but never produced them. Stamos—and prosecutors—say they never existed.

founder Hugh Hefner's insistence that he does not intend to sell the company and instead wants to buy the shares he doesn't already own. Penthouse corporate parent FriendFinder Networks Inc. said it will offer \$210 million for Playboy Enterprises Inc. The bid comes just a few days after Hefner proposed to buy out those remaining shares and take the company private in a deal that would value the company at \$185 million. The catch: Hefner already owns nearly 70 percent of Playboy's voting shares. "If he doesn't want to sell, there's no deal," RBC Capital Markets analyst David Bank said. In a statement, Playboy said its board will give FriendFinder's offer "appropriate consideration."

Shohreh Aghdashloo speaks out against stoning

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Like the character she played in the film "The Stoning of Soraya M.," Shohreh Aghdashloo is speaking out against the practice of stoning. There was a world outcry over the death sentence by stoning for an Iranian woman convicted of adultery. A judicial official has said the sentence will not be implemented for now. Aghdashloo says the woman's two adult children brought international attention to stoning by speaking out against their mother's sentence. The 58-year-old actress says she hopes stoning will be stopped. She says: "There's always hope when we all get together, the people of the universe, regardless of our barriers and our colors and our religions and our background and our nationality. When we get together, we can do something."

Rapper Too Short arrested after Idaho concert

BOISE, Idaho (AP)—Police say the At-

lanta-based rapper Too Short was arrested after he was allegedly involved in a fight that broke out when security told him he couldn't bring underage girls backstage at a Boise venue. The performer, whose real name is Todd Shaw, 44, faces three counts of misdemeanor battery. Police were called after reports of a fight. Three employees at the concert venue told police they were punched and kicked by Shaw and another man, Michael Walton, 38, who appeared to be Shaw's associate. Police say Walton faces two counts of misdemeanor battery. Ada County Jail records show Shaw and Walton were arrested early Thursday and have since been released on bond.

Estranged aide to John Edwards reaches movie deal

RALEIGH, North Carolina (AP)—An insider's account of John Edwards' affair and the lengths he went to hide his mistress will be developed into a movie, a former aide to the two-time presidential candidate said Thursday. Andrew Young said that he has reached a deal with writer and producer Aaron Sorkin. He declined to discuss the terms of the agreement, but Sorkin confirmed he had acquired the rights to Young's book, "The Politician." "This is a first-hand account of an extraordinary story filled with motivations, decisions and consequences that would have lit Shakespeare up," Sorkin said in a statement. "There's much more to Andrew's book than what has been reported and I'm grateful that he's trusting me with it." The book detailed how he helped hide Edwards' mistress during the candidate's second campaign for the White House. Sorkin was the writer of the play "A Few Good Men" and the television series "The West Wing."

Woman playing boss at work wants peaceful role at home

By **ABIGAIL VAN BUREN**
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

DEAR ABBY: This summer, my boyfriend and I will be working together. I will be his boss. I want to maintain a professional environment while still keeping peace in the relationship. My boyfriend can be sensitive sometimes, so do you have any tips to help me separate my work life from my love life?

STAGE MANAGER
IN THE SOUTH



Dear Abby

DEAR STAGE MANAGER: Yup. Before you start working with your boyfriend, establish ground rules in advance. He needs to understand that he won't be treated any differently than the rest of the cast and crew members because of your personal relationship, and to protect your job there must be no suggestion of favoritism. For you to allow that to happen, or for him to expect special treatment, would be unprofessional and could negatively affect the production.

■ ■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: I was my best friend "Chanel's" maid of honor. I received her beautiful engraved invitation in the mail, but never sent back my RSVP, assuming that because I was maid of honor, had purchased my plane ticket, reserved a hotel room (which the bride and I were sharing the night before the wedding) and had already bought my dress, it was "understood" that I was coming. The bride and I had already discussed my special meal for the reception because I am a vegetarian.

During the reception, Chanel's mother informed me that "in the future I needed to RSVP when invited to a function." Abby, as a member of the wedding party I honestly didn't think I needed to. Are the members of the wedding party expected to RSVP?

As an aside, Chanel's mother was never fond of my mother and has told Chanel she thinks I'm "flaky." Was I in the wrong, or did her mother use this as a way to express her dislike of me? I have never considered her someone who was a stickler regarding etiquette.

PERPLEXED IN PLANO, TEXAS

DEAR PERPLEXED: Technically, when one receives an RSVP card with an invitation, the recipient should immediately return it with an acceptance or regrets. However, in your case, common sense should have allowed the bride's mother to conclude that you would be there—for all of the reasons you mentioned—unless Chanel and her mother weren't communicating.

It appears your assessment of the woman is on target. For her to have been so insensitive to have taken it upon herself to "correct" you at the reception was in extremely poor taste.

■ ■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: What should I call my late daughter's husband? My daughter had been married to "John" for 10 years at the time of her death. They had two young children.

John has since remarried and his wife has adopted the children. We have a close relationship, but I am unsure how to introduce both of them. (They are also aunt and uncle to my other grandchildren.)

JUDITH IN SAN JOSE

DEAR JUDITH: The family history does not have to be explained at the time you introduce them. I see no reason why you should feel compelled to explain that your daughter died and John remarried, etc. Why not just say, "This is John and Mary, and our grandkids, Laurie and Jimmy?"

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

What teens need to know about sex, drugs, AIDS and getting along with peers and parents is in "What Every Teen Should Know." To order, send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$6 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby—Teen Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in the price.)

ENTERTAINMENT TIDBITS

Robbie Williams rejoins Take That for new album

LONDON (AP)—Robbie Williams has rejoined Take That to record the British boy band's first album to feature all five members since 1995. The band confirmed on Friday that it has recorded a new studio album, to be released in November. Williams left the popular group in 1995 to pursue a solo career, and in the following year Take That disbanded. The band reunited in 2005 without Williams and achieved huge success, selling three number one singles. The last time the original Take That line-up recorded a full album together was in 1995 for "Nobody Else."

CBS producer who blackmailed Letterman up for Emmy

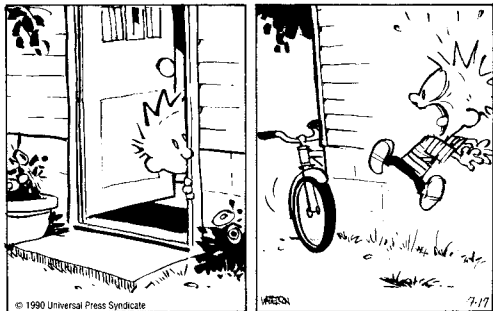
NEW YORK (AP)—The former CBS News producer jailed for trying to blackmail TV host David Letterman is up for an Emmy award. Robert "Joe" Halderman was nominated Thursday for a News and Documentary Emmy award for his participation in an April 2009 "48 Hours" story about an American exchange student charged with murder in Italy. He was one of four producers cited for the story. Halderman began a six-month jail sentence in May for trying to extort money from Letterman in exchange for not revealing the late-night host's office affairs. The "48 Hours" story is nominated in the category of best continuing coverage of a news story by a newsmagazine. The awards will be presented Sept. 27 in New York.

Penthouse owner makes competing bid for Playboy

NEW YORK (AP)—The owner of Penthouse magazine made a formal, competing bid for the Playboy empire Thursday despite

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes



By Bill Waterson Garfield®



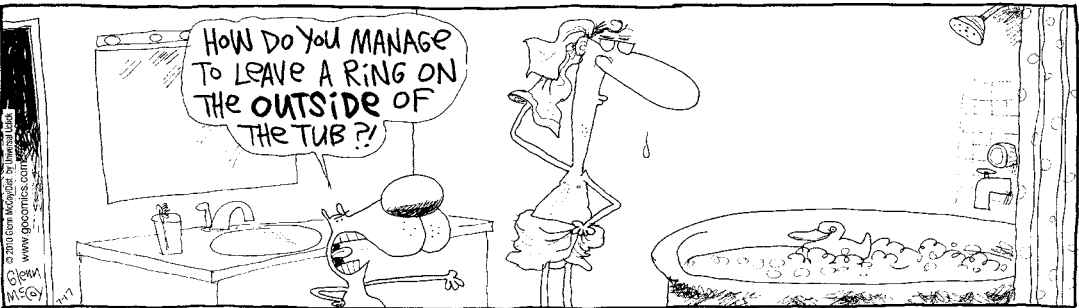
By Jim Davis

Adam@home



By Bryan Basset

The Duplex



By Glenn McCoy

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

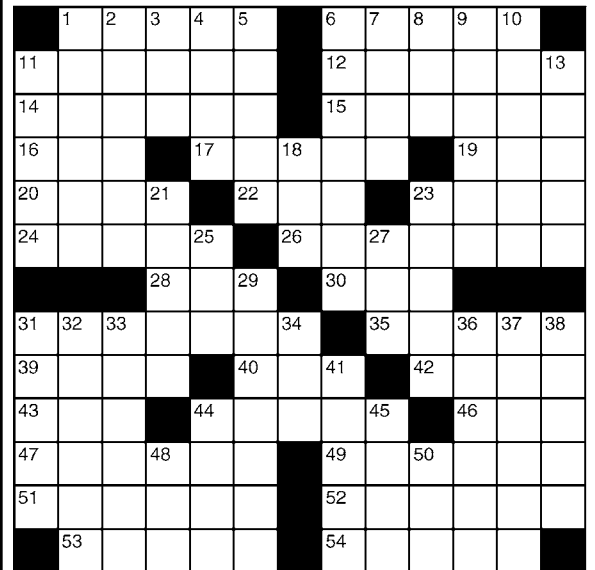
ACROSS 1 Disband, briefly 6 Station 11 Mexican state or river 12 Umbrella-capped mushroom 14 Trumpet's cousin 15 Actor Wilde 16 Fuss 17 Delta deposits 19 Palindromic preposition 20 Rorschach art 22 Crucial 23 Killer whale 24 Become established 26 Calming agent 28 Prickly husk 30 "Mayday!" 31 — glass

35 Easy win, slangily 39 One of the Three Bears 40 Ever-green type 42 Global septet 43 Honest politician 44 Sire 46 Commercials 47 Meeting place 49 Eye part 51 Epoch of the Tertiary Period 52 Outdoorsy

53 Blue shoe material 54 Preamble 11 Strike-breakers 13 Understandable 18 Meadow 21 Leg bone 23 Refuge 25 Sister 27 Journal 29 Umpire 31 "The final frontier" 32 Forbidden acts 33 Insight 34 Delve 36 9-Down, but more so 37 Managed somehow 38 English composition 41 Straight (Pref.) 44 Flex 45 Village 48 Born 50 On Soc. Sec., maybe

Solution time: 27 mins.

YESTERDAY'S ANSWER 7-17



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call 1-900-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Alex Winter, 45; J. Michael Straczynski, 56; David Hasselhoff, 58; Diahann Carroll, 75

Happy Birthday: Emotional matters will keep you occupied this year. Try not to neglect the financial and professional areas of your life. Productivity will be the key to your success and can take your mind off stressful personal issues. You may have extra burdens, so be quick to enlist the help of friends and relatives so you can avoid a loss. Your numbers are 10, 14, 22, 27, 34, 39, 40

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Concentrate on what needs to be accomplished or you will end up dealing with a pushy individual trying to take up your time and space. Get out and do something with a friend who doesn't judge you. Find a place where you can relax. ***

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Ignore comments made by someone trying to upset you. Focus on what you can do and the people you want to spend time with. Rise above any conflict you face. You can eliminate the stress in your life through positive action. ***

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): You can expect to endure problems with loved ones and friends. Avoid arguments by using your quick wit and imaginative ideas. Take a position of leadership, even if you are uncertain. ****

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Ignore what is going on around you that is distracting and is making you question your next move. You can make some worthwhile changes at home that will make your life better. Love is on the rise. **

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Spell out your plans for the future and you will receive some interesting feedback. Don't expect everyone to like what you propose. Take action if you want to meet with success, additional income and an interesting new prospect. ***

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Anything to do with money will become emotional. If you have a debt to pay or one owed to you, it may be difficult to deal with those involved. Make sure you have an alternate plan. Honesty will be your best bet. ***

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): You'll be emotional and have personal and professional issues to deal with. Avoid any aggressive action. The uncertainty you have regarding your future can be put to rest if you look for other ways to make money on the side. ***

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Lay your plans out for all to see. Once you have revealed what it is you are trying to accomplish, you will get interest from someone with a similar vision. A partnership will help you establish yourself with a group of people you haven't been able to infiltrate in the past. ***

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Appreciate what others do for you if you want to avoid backlash. Expect to face delays or problems while traveling, especially if you aren't abiding by the rules. Fix up your place or find a new place to live. ****

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Just because you have worked alongside someone in the past or shared common

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

COPYRIGHT 2007 UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

ground doesn't mean you will now. If something doesn't seem right, ask questions. There is a fabulous opportunity you mustn't turn down. **

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Focus on what needs to be done, not what has already taken place. Use your imagination for a plan that will help you with self-improvement and health issues. Money is in the stars but don't squander what should be saved or used responsibly. *****

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Love is in the stars. Be bold and let your feelings and intentions be known in order to overcome inhibitions. Honesty will be the key to exceptional personal and professional relationships. ***

Birthday Baby: You are a peacemaker, a crusader and a helper. You speak up for your beliefs. You are kind, generous and practical.

Eugenia's Web sites: eugenialast.com for confidential consultations, myspace.com/eugenialast for Eugenia's blog, astroadvice.com for fun

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku By Dave Green

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

YESTERDAY'S SUDOKU ANSWER

Difficulty Level ★★★★★ 7/17

©2010 Conceptis Puzzles, Dist. by King Features Syndicate, Inc.

WONDERWORD® By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD. The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

'MEDIUM' (IV SERIES) Solution: 7 letters

Y L I M A F D E J A V U L T E
R R E A L U C K Y T L U C V V
E U G I B M S P S G O I A I L
G L N O R I E M E S R R S A O
R E I Y I A L T A T G I M N S
U S S N D C T I S E O E O O T
S E S O G Y A I T N R S K Z U
E M I N E S D T S I I D C I O
Q I M E T I H H T L E A A R B
U R E M T T R I L O I S R A A
E C V O E E P A M A R D C B E
N L E N H S U P M D A N N E R
C U N E C E M V I T C E T E D E
E E T H E M E M Y S T E R Y H
K S S P O S S E S S I O N S W

© 2010 Universal Uclick www.wonderword.com Join us on Facebook 7/17

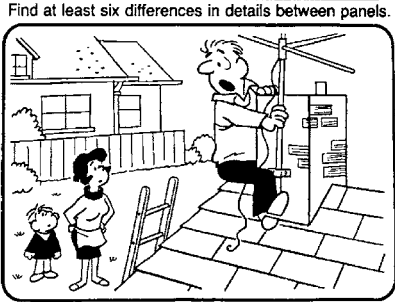
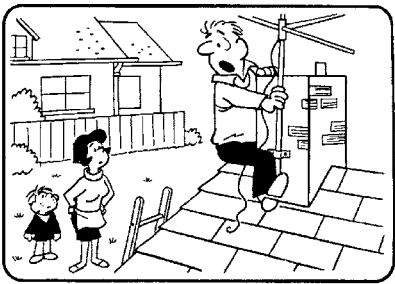
Abilities, Allison, Ameritips, Ariel, Arizona, Attorney, Brain stem, Bridgette, Clues, Crack, Crimes, Cult, Danner, Deja Vu, Detective, District, Drama, Dreams, Dubois, Events, Family, Getty, Grave, Kenneth, Lucky, Marie, Missing, Mystery, Phenomenon, Possessions, Push, Rules, Sequence, Sites, Solve, Soul, Surgery, Theme, Visions, Whereabouts

Yesterday's Answer: Hoosiers

To order THE COLLECTED WONDERWORD, Volume 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30 and 31 send \$5.95 each (US funds only payable to Universal Uclick plus \$3 postage for the first book order, \$1 plus for each additional book. Send to WONDERWORD, 1130 Walnut St., Kansas City, MO 64105 or call toll-free, 1-800-642-6480. Order online at upuzzles.com.

HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTIHOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.

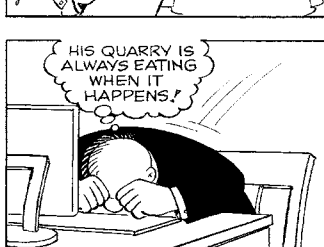
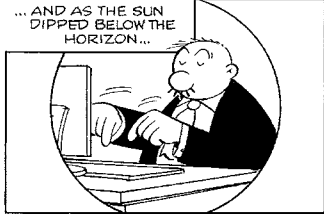
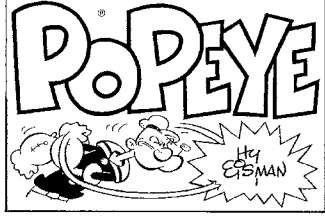
© 2010 King Features Synd., Inc. All rights reserved.

Wishing Well®

2	5	4	5	8	2	7	3	4	3	4	5	8
A	J	L	O	I	S	B	Y	I	O	F	Y	M
5	4	2	3	5	6	4	6	3	5	3	8	6
F	E	H	U	R	S	C	P	P	O	L	P	E
7	4	7	8	5	7	5	4	8	2	6	4	5
U	H	S	O	M	Y	T	A	R	O	C	N	E
8	5	3	6	4	7	2	4	2	5	7	4	3
T	E	A	I	G	F	R	E	T	N	U	S	N
6	5	3	5	2	7	2	5	2	8	5	3	6
A	A	A	G	J	T	O	E	U	A	R	C	L
8	2	6	7	8	2	8	6	8	3	6	8	6
N	R	E	U	T	N	M	V	E	R	E	E	N
8	7	2	3	7	8	2	3	8	3	8	3	8
T	T	R	E	U	E	I	Y	I	N	S	G	E

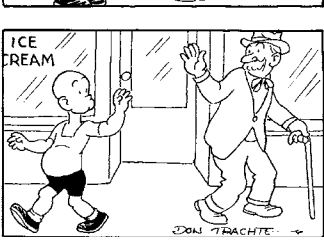
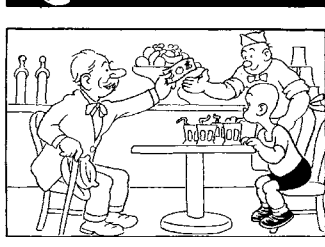
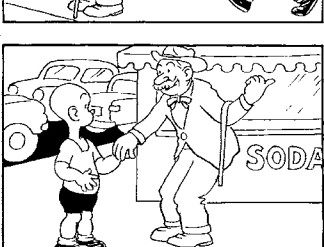
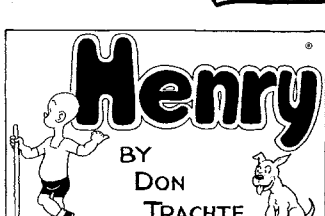
HERE IS A PLEASANT LITTLE GAME that will give you a message every day. It's a numerical puzzle designed to spell out your fortune. Count the letters in your first name. If the number of letters is 6 or more, subtract 4. If the number is less than 6, add 3. The result is your key number. Start at the upper left-hand corner and check one of your key numbers, left to right. Then read the message the letters under the checked figures give you.

© 2010 King Features Synd., Inc. All rights reserved.



They'll Do It Every Time

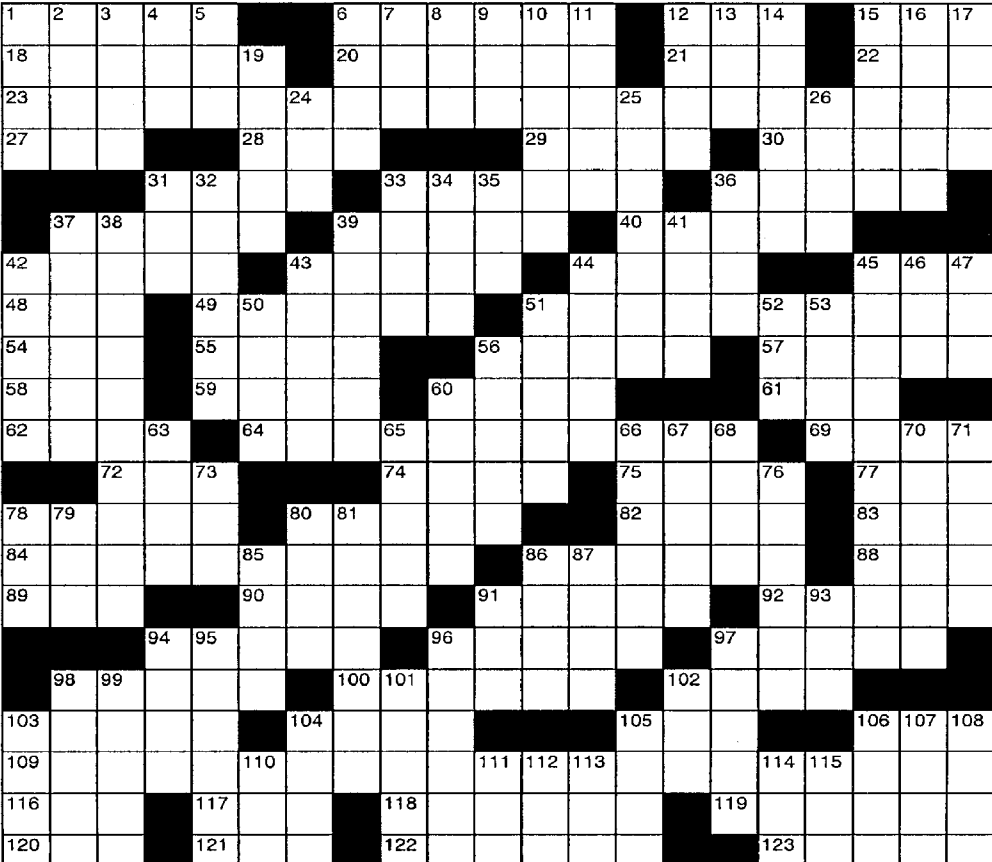
by Al Scaduto



Super Crossword

THE MOTHER LODGE

- ACROSS
- 1 Throbbled
 - 6 Space traveler
 - 12 They may be personal
 - 15 Greens org.
 - 18 Gumshoe
 - 20 Tristan's tootsie
 - 21 Trim the turf
 - 22 Moray, for one
 - 23 Start of a remark by Milton Berle
 - 27 Lamb's dam
 - 28 Unpopular picnicer
 - 29 WWII gun
 - 30 Dear book?
 - 31 Taj town
 - 33 Fir type
 - 36 Toast topping
 - 37 Eddy
 - 39 Apia's locale
 - 40 VCR button
 - 42 Ballet's Shearer
 - 43 Black or Carpenter
 - 44 Rotate
 - 45 Ample abdomen
 - 48 "Shook Up" ('57 smash)
 - 49 Substantiated
 - 51 Part 2 of remark
 - 54 Boulder
 - 55 Leander's love
 - 56 Revlon rival
 - 57 "M" man
 - 58 "Stroker" ('83 film)
 - 59 Prophet
 - 60 42 Across movement
 - 61 "au vin"
 - 62 "Dragnet" star
 - 64 Part 3 of remark
 - 69 Tube
 - 72 Gobble up
 - 74 Without (daringly)
 - 75 Spring flower
 - 77 Writer
 - 78 Jergens or Astaire
 - 80 Notre Dame's river
 - 82 Winslet of "The Life of David Gale"
 - 83 Formed a lap
 - 84 Part 4 of remark
 - 86 Relinquishment
 - 88 TV's "Got a Secret"
 - 89 Fitting
 - 90 Tiers
 - 91 John of Bad English
 - 92 Behind
 - 94 Conductor
 - 96 Civic or Accord
 - 97 Risk a ticket
 - 98 "Baby" ('60 song)
 - 100 Angola's capital
 - 102 Runners carry it
 - 103 Decorate
 - 104 "Yo!" at the library
 - 105 Nav. rank abbr.
 - 106 TV-listing abbr.
 - 109 End of remark
 - 116 "The Daba Honey-moon" ('14 song)
 - 117 Pewter base
 - 118 A Muse
 - 119 Verdi opera
 - 120 "The Burning" ('84 film)
 - 121 Crone
 - 122 Composer Mascagni
 - 123 Merits
 - DOWN
 - 1 '68 US Open winner
 - 2 Enjoy taffy
 - 3 — Krishna
 - 4 Printer's measures
 - 5 Pair
 - 6 Freshen a fuchsia
 - 7 Road curve
 - 8 Excessively
 - 9 Urban transport
 - 10 Forsyth's "The — File"
 - 11 Oscar de la —
 - 12 Exiled dictator
 - 13 Comic DeLuise
 - 14 Nobel and Garbo
 - 15 Phlox part
 - 16 Anthony of "General Hospital"
 - 17 Confederate
 - 19 Tangle
 - 24 Claire or Balin
 - 25 Japanese dish
 - 26 Khartoum's river
 - 31 Rock's — Supply
 - 32 Charts
 - 33 Stark
 - 34 Congrega-tional comeback
 - 35 Actor Chaney
 - 36 O'Casey's "— and the Paycock"
 - 37 Comfort
 - 38 Gnu
 - 39 Spice-rack item
 - 41 Bunch of battalions
 - 42 Brilliant bird
 - 43 Asian nation
 - 44 Actress Marisa
 - 45 Bonus
 - 46 Legendary Bruin
 - 47 Mao — -tung
 - 50 Basketball's Willis
 - 51 Wishful winker?
 - 52 RN's specialty
 - 53 Parka feature
 - 56 Dramatist Edward
 - 60 Marshall or Singleton
 - 63 Cinderella's soiree
 - 65 They may be spilt
 - 66 Mr. Khrushchev
 - 67 Sombre
 - 68 Location
 - 70 Yearned for yummys
 - 71 Spud
 - 73 Surrey snack
 - 76 Juan's wrap
 - 78 "Gotcha!"
 - 79 Start to paint
 - 80 Buffalo forecast
 - 81 White Sox Hall of Famer
 - 85 Russian river
 - 86 Trick stick
 - 87 Turturro of "The Sopranos"
 - 91 Finished first
 - 93 Nourished
 - 94 Mytho-logical meanie
 - 95 Apex
 - 96 '62 John Wayne film
 - 97 Incline
 - 98 Hacienda material
 - 99 Wanderer
 - 101 Deplete
 - 102 Loser's locale
 - 103 Jezebel's husband
 - 104 Twinge
 - 105 Secretary of Labor Elaine
 - 106 Aspen apparatus
 - 107 Beethoven's birthplace
 - 108 Pivot
 - 110 Vardalos of "My Big Fat Greek Wedding"
 - 111 "Norma" ('79 film)
 - 112 Explosive letters
 - 113 Round Table title
 - 114 Archaic preposition
 - 115 "Jurassic Park" stuff



© 2010 King Features Synd., Inc. All rights reserved.



- pardon 10,000 Vietnam War draft resisters?
5. NATURAL WORLD: What are the seeds of castor bean plants used to produce?
6. LITERATURE: Who wrote the novel "Barry Lyndon"?
7. MOVIES: What major film star placed third in the 1950 Mr. Universe contest?
8. FOOD & DRINK: What is the traditional liquor used in making a Tom Collins drink?
9. TELEVISION: What is the ad-
- dress of the award-winning kids' show "Sesame Street"?
10. DISCOVERIES: Who is credited with discovering quarks in 1963?

© 2010 King Features Synd., Inc.

1. U.S. STATES: Which state is known as "The Pine Tree" state?
2. MATH: What is the decimal equivalent of one-eighth?
3. LANGUAGE: What is the meaning of the French term "canard"?
4. HISTORY: In what year did President Jimmy Carter

5. Rich, a toxic poison
4. 1977
3. A false or misleading story
2. 0.125
1. Maine

Saturday's Answers



The Spats

by Jeff Pickering



CLASSIFIED ADS



CLASSIFIEDS RATES AND POLICIES

Saipan Tribune's Classifieds Section gives you the right exposure without hurting your pockets. Stretch your dollar and get results.

CLASSIFIED LINER ADS

Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 6-day run on both print and online edition, for as low as \$27 for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of the packages below.

ADS	(PRINT)	COMBO (PRINT AND ONLINE)
• 3-Liner	\$15	\$27
• 5-Liner	\$24	\$39
• 3-Liner with picture	\$24	\$42
• 5-Liner with picture	\$36	\$57

ADVERTISING DEADLINE

Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

Saturday Issue:

- All ads placed Friday before 12 noon will come out Saturday issue and anything placed thereafter will be published on Monday issue.

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

CHECK YOUR ADS

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the Saipan Tribune are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

FOR RENT - RESIDENTIAL

DanDan – American style home 2 storey concrete house—walled/gated, 5bedrooms, 3baths, unfurnished, Roof-top patio and BBQ, beautiful Mountain/Ocean view, 24 hr. water, 322-0268

FOR RENT - RESIDENTIAL

Fina Sisu Apt., 2-BR, 1-BTH, FF, AC, BU Genset/ 24-hr water, security, laundry room, free Wi-Fi & ample parking. Right behind NMC campus. MIHA applicants accepted. Special rates for NMC faculty/ students. Call 235-6527/8 or 285-1317 for info.

FOR RENT - RESIDENTIAL

Ocean View Terraces. Luxury 2BR & 1BTH Apts w/private balcony & beautiful view. Rooms w/ A/C & Fully Furnished. Back-up Generator. Free Wi-Fi. Laundry Area. Night-time security. 235-6527/28 or 285-1317.

FOR RENT - RESIDENTIAL

Sunset View Terraces. Luxury 2BR & 1BTH Apts w/private balcony & beautiful view. Rooms w/ A/C & Fully Furnished. Back-up Generator. Free Wi-Fi. Laundry Area. Night-time security. 235-6527/28 or 285-1317.

FOR RENT - RESIDENTIAL

House for Rent in DanDan. 3 bedrooms, 1½ bath, fully furnished. Newly renovated, with garage. Call for more details 288-0781 or 671-797-0629

WHATZIT Solution: Easy peasy

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Opening Date: Thursday, July 15, 2010 Closing Date: August 13, 2010

JVA NO.	Position Title	Positions (s)	*Salary	Contract	Location
10-002-1	Drinking Water and Wastewater Division Manager (DM)	1	\$60,000 to \$75,000 per year; un-graded, un-classified	Two years	Water and Wastewater Divisions, Saipan
10-005-2	Wastewater Treatment Plant Operations Supervisor Saipan) ("OS")	1	\$55,000 to \$ 65,000 per year; un-graded, un-classified	Two years	Wastewater Division, Saipan
10-029	Wastewater Treatment Level 2 Certified	2	\$35,000 To \$42,500 per year un-graded; un-classified	Two Years	Wastewater Division, Saipan
10-030	Wastewater Collection Level 2 Certified	2	\$35,000 To \$42,500 per year un-graded; un-classified	Two Years	Wastewater Division, Saipan
10-031	Water Treatment Level 1 Certified	1	\$30,000 To \$40,000 per year un-graded; un-classified	Two Years	Water Section, Rota
10-032	Water Distribution Level 2 Certified	1	\$35,000 To \$42,500 per year un-graded; un-classified	Two Years	Water Section, Rota

*For more information about the position (s) being advertised; requirements, equivalency policy, and salary; please contact or stop by the human resource office on the third floor of the Joeten Dandan Building.

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY PROVIDER AND EMPLOYER

P.o. Box 501220, Saipan mp 96950-1220 U.S.A.. Tel. Nos. (670) 235-7025 to 32 • Fax (670) 235-5131

WHATZIT?

Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.

EEEE PPPP
E P
EEEE PPPP
E P
EEEE PPPP

www.facebook.com/dingbatsgames

Find today's solution in this section

Subscribe to the CNMI's First Daily Newspaper

Call 235-NEWS

www.saipantribune.com

McIlroy rips through a defenseless Old Course

THE OPEN  **ST. ANDREWS, Scotland**

(AP)—In the 137 years since the British Open first came to St. Andrews, the Old Course rarely has been such a pushover. Rarer still was the score Rory McIlroy delivered.

Whether it was the luck of the draw or his tantalizing talent really didn't matter.

In conditions so calm that not a hair on his considerable mop was out of place, McIlroy set off on an incredible run into the record book Thursday with a 9-under 63 that gave him a two-shot lead.

"Going out there this morning with no wind, you're never going to get St. Andrews playing any easier," McIlroy said.

It was just as easy for John Daly, a former champion at St. Andrews and now the ultimate long shot. He first energized the gallery by bashing tee shots and making enough birdies for a 66, matching his best score in the British Open.

And it was just as easy for Tiger Woods, who ran off three straight birdies late in his round for a 67.

"The old lady had no clothes on today," Tom Watson said after a 73.

There were 45 rounds in the 60s, 73 players broke par and the average score was under par—71.75.

No one took advantage like McIlroy, a 21-year-old from Northern Ireland with a game beyond his years. His 63 tied the lowest score in any major, and it was only the second such score at St. Andrews in golf's oldest championship.

Of the eight players who have shot 63 in the British Open, McIlroy is the only one to do it in the first round.

"I'm very happy that I was able to take advantage of those conditions," said McIlroy, who had a two-shot lead over Louis Oosthuizen of South Africa. "And it gives me a little bit of a buffer going into the next three days, whatever weather comes our way."

It sure didn't feel easy in the afternoon.

Not long after McIlroy finished his round, the leaden skies over St. Andrews Bay brought showers to the Old Course and a breeze that picked up strength the rest of the afternoon.



Northern Ireland's Rory McIlroy in action during the first round of the British Open Golf Championship on the Old Course at St. Andrews, Scotland, Thursday, July 15, 2010.

Of the 16 players atop the leaderboard, only Peter Hanson (66), Bradley Dredge (66), Lee Westwood (67) and Y.E. Yang (67) teed off after the wind showed up at noon.

"The difference for the early and late starters was huge," Westwood said. "You could have kicked it round in a low score this morning. The course was defenseless, and I actually expected somebody to post a 62. I don't think I have ever known St. Andrews as calm. Hopefully, we might get a break with the weather tomorrow morning, but you never know."

Retief Goosen turned on his television just before 10 a.m. and saw Daly at 7-under par through 11 holes. The wind already was whipping flags when he teed off, and the two-time U.S. Open champion equated his 69 to a 66 had he played in the morning.

He bore no grudges. Such is the fickle nature of links golf.

"You've still got to make a score," Goosen said. "It doesn't matter how easy it is."

Phil Mickelson didn't make a birdie in the afternoon until making an 8-foot putt on the last hole for a 73, and walking off the course without speaking to reporters.

McIlroy's amazing run began with a drive that he hit onto the green at the 352-yard ninth hole to about 15 feet below the hole. He knocked that in for birdie and was on his way. The freckled-face kid followed with a sand wedge to 6 feet on the 10th for birdie, a 7-iron to 8 feet for birdie on the 11th, and two putts from 50 feet on the short 12th hole.

It was so low—and so there for the taking—that even after a record-tying round, he thought about the one that got away.

McIlroy was 8 under when he flew his approach dangerously close over

the Road Hole bunker on the 17th, leaving him a 5-foot birdie putt. Make that, and he goes to the 357-yard 18th with a shot at 62.

He missed.

"It sort of went through my mind on 17 that 62 would have been the lowest round in a major," McIlroy said. "That's probably why I missed the putt."

He already shot a 62 earlier this year on a course that was far tougher than St. Andrews on Thursday—Quail Hollow for his first victory in America. It was another example why so many have predicted stardom for him. He also shot a 61 at Royal Portrush when he was 16.

This was different.

"I think it probably is the most special just because it's at St. Andrews," McIlroy said. "And it's the Open Championship."

Oosthuizen looked as though he might have a chance to join McIlroy.

He also was at 8 under playing the 17th until making a bogey, then failing to pick up a stroke on the last hole and settling for a 65.

Not often does someone open with a 65 in a major and trail by two shots. This was not a typical opening round in a major.

"It just goes to show you that the golf course could have been had," Woods said. "When I was playing either 17 or 18, to be in the top 10 you had to be 5 under. You don't see that at too many majors."

For Woods, it was the first time in eight rounds in an Open at St. Andrews—dating to July 20, 2000—that he was not atop the leaderboard at the end of a round.

He made his move through the loop, then ended his string of three straight birdies on the par-5 14th. Woods was moving closer to the lead until he badly pulled a 4-foot par putt on the 17th, then missed a 10-foot birdie try on the last hole.

"I'm in good shape," Woods said. "I took advantage of the golf course when I needed to take advantage of it. As of right now, we're on the good side of the draw. But you don't know tomorrow."

Woods won the last two times on the Old Course by a combined 13 shots, and his bid to become the first player with three claret jugs at the home of golf is still in the picture.

Asked if he could catch McIlroy, Woods replied, "We've still got three more rounds."

Five players were only three shots behind at 66, a group that includes Daly, who won at St. Andrews in 1995, the last time the weather acted up. Those in the large group with Woods included Westwood, PGA champion Y.E. Yang and former U.S. Open champion Lucas Glover.

Defending champion Stewart Cink opened with a 70, despite catching St. Andrews lying down.

In the nine times McIlroy has competed at St. Andrews, as an amateur and a pro, he has broken 70 every time.

"I've actually never played St. Andrews when the weather has been that bad," McIlroy said. "That's probably why my scores have been quite good."

Wade says James 'didn't quit' on Cavs' playoff run



MIAMI (AP)—They've been teammates for only a week, and Dwyane Wade is already standing up for LeBron James.

Wade defended the NBA's two-time reigning MVP on Thursday, telling The Associated Press that James "didn't quit" on Cleveland during the playoffs. That was the accusation made by Cavaliers owner Dan Gilbert last week, not long after James went on television to reveal he was leaving Cleveland for Miami.

"He's not a quitter," Wade said. "He didn't quit."

■ ■ ■

MIAMI (AP)—By the time next season's NBA playoffs arrive, nine years will have passed since Mike Miller last enjoyed a postseason victory.

He's coming to Miami to change that.

Miller signed his long-awaited five-year contract with the Heat on Thursday, becoming the latest play-

er to take less money than he could have made elsewhere to play for Miami. LeBron James, Dwyane Wade, Chris Bosh and Udonis Haslem all did the same in recent days, all with eyes on winning a championship.

"It's official!" Miller wrote on Twitter, thanking the Heat, owner Micky Arison and team president Pat Riley for making it happen.

After James, Bosh and Wade decided to team up, the Heat knew they needed a shooter to complement the All-Star trio, and that only raised Miller's stock in Miami. Riley met with Miller in the very first moments after free agency opened at 12:01 a.m. eastern time on July 1, sitting down with him in a Beverly Hills hotel room for a sales pitch unlike any other.

■ ■ ■

In an interview with The AP on July 8, Gilbert not only levied the quitting charge, but said James got "a free pass" for too long. The NBA fined Gilbert \$100,000 earlier this week for

some of his comments, with commissioner David Stern saying they were too extreme for the league's liking.

Wade said he watched every game in Cleveland's second-round series against Boston, the team that eliminated the Heat in the opening round of the postseason. The Celtics used a similar defensive scheme against James as they did against Wade to open the playoffs, throwing a slew of challenges in the way of both.

"LeBron James, Dwyane Wade, Kobe Bryant, guys like that understand what Boston's defense was about," Wade said. "Their defense was built on not letting one player beat them. You either settle for the outside shot or you pass to your teammates. LeBron had one bad game in the playoffs. Other than that, he did what he could do with the defense all watching him."

The Cavs lost to the Celtics in six games, but Wade pointed out that in the series finale, James finished with 27 points, 19 rebounds and 10 assists.

Nonetheless, Gilbert told The AP,

"watch the tape. The Boston series was unlike anything in the history of sports for a superstar."

The Cavaliers were beaten by 32 points in Game 5, a stunning loss at home. During the game, James appeared distracted and disinterested, often glaring at Cleveland's coaches as the Cavs tried to foul to get back into the game in the second half. James also made some puzzling postgame comments, saying he had "spoiled" people with his play over seven seasons.

In that Game 5 loss to Boston, James scored 15 points on 3 of 14 shooting.

In Game 6 against Boston, even as now-former Cavs coach Mike Brown tried to get his players to foul as time was winding down, James appeared to wave him off, almost resigned that the season was ending and there was nothing Cleveland could do at that point. Gilbert also said he believes James quit on the Cavs in Game 6 of their series in 2009 against Orlando.

"I don't see where you can get where he quit," Wade said. "He just had one

bad game. It happens. Kobe had a bad game in the finals. They won. It didn't matter. LeBron's teammates didn't help him out that game and it made the way he played even worse. But he's not a quitter. He didn't quit."

As James pointed out in his welcome-to-Miami event on July 9, Bryant made only 6 of his 24 shots in Game 7 of the finals against Boston, which his Los Angeles Lakers won anyway for their second straight NBA title.

"He knew he had help and guys came through for him," James said last week of Bryant's Game 7 showing in the finals. James was the subject of countless jokes during Wednesday's ESPY awards, and Wade saw the humor in some of them. Others, however, had him bristling.

"You get defensive with things like that," Wade said. "He's a good friend. You understand people say it because it's a hot topic. They wanted people to react in a positive way or a negative way, just because it's a hot topic to talk about. It's a punch line. They just wanted to have something to do with it. They wanted to feel involved in some way."

Heyward helps Jurrjens as Braves beat Brewers

ATLANTA (AP)—Jair Jurrjens gave up only one run, rookie Jason Heyward made two strong defensive plays in his return from an injury as the Atlanta Braves beat the Milwaukee Brewers 2-1 on Thursday.

Martin Prado and Chipper Jones hit home runs in the third inning off Dave Bush (4-7).

Corey Hart's 22nd homer gave Milwaukee a 1-0 lead in the first inning. It was the only run allowed by Jurrjens, who gave up five hits and two walks with three strikeouts in 6 2-3 innings.

Cardinals 7, Dodgers 1

At St. Louis, Chris Carpenter allowed four hits in eight innings to improve to 6-0 against the Los Angeles Dodgers as St. Louis chased an off-kilter Clayton Kershaw early.

Allen Craig had two RBIs without a hit off Kershaw (9-5), who issued consecutive walks on 11 pitches to start the Cardinals' two-run first, meriting a quick visit from pitching coach Rick Honeycutt.

Carpenter (10-3) struck out six with no walks.

Andre Ethier homered and singled for the Dodgers, who committed errors on consecutive plays in St. Louis' two-run fourth.

Cubs 12, Phillies 6

At Chicago, Aramis Ramirez hit a pair of two-run doubles, and Derrek Lee and Geovany Soto each had two-run homers to lead Chicago to a win over Philadelphia.

Alfonso Soriano also hit a solo homer for the Cubs, who scored nine of their 12 runs with two outs.



Atlanta Braves starting pitcher Jair Jurrjens works in the first inning a baseball game against the Milwaukee Brewers on Thursday, July 15, 2010 in Atlanta.

Cubs starter Ryan Dempster allowed two runs on six hits with three walks and nine strikeouts. Dempster (8-7) rebounded after allowing a long two-run homer to Ryan Howard in the first inning.

Giants 2, Mets 0

At San Francisco, Tim Lincecum pitched a six-hitter for his fourth career shutout and Pablo Sandoval hit an RBI double to help the San Francisco Giants open the second half of the season with a victory over the New York Mets.

Lincecum (10-4) is coming off his third straight trip to the All-Star game, but was able to start the first game after the break be-

cause he was not used in Tuesday night's game in Anaheim.

The Giants fans who may have been disappointed not to see their two-time Cy Young winner appear in the All-Star game were more than happy to see him dominate in a matchup that counts in the standings for the Giants.

They cheered loudly when he was sent to bat in the bottom of the eighth inning and he responded by slapping a single to left field. He then finished the Mets off on the mound with a perfect ninth for his first shutout since throwing a two-hitter against St. Louis on June 29, 2009.

San Francisco has won eight

of 10 games following a seven-game losing streak.

The Mets' only real threat against Lincecum came in the fifth inning when Josh Thole hit a line drive through the box that glanced off Lincecum's back for a single. That put runners on first and second with no outs. But Lincecum retired the next three hitters, getting Angel Pagan on a flyout to right field with runners on second and third to escape the jam.

White Sox 8, Twins 7

At Minneapolis, Gordon Beckham hit a home run and had two RBIs as John Danks recovered from his worst inning of the season to help the Chicago White

Sox win their ninth game in a row over the Minnesota Twins.

Danks (9-7) gave up six runs on six hits in the second inning, but only allowed three hits in his other five scoreless innings and the White Sox did all the little things right to push the slumping Twins 4 1/2 games behind them in the AL Central.

Bobby Jenks picked up his 20th save in 21 chances. He struck out Orlando Hudson with the bases loaded in the eighth inning, then gave up an RBI-single to Delmon Young in the ninth before getting Jim Thome looking to end the game.

Chicago perfectly executed four hit-and-runs, bunted runners over and played superb

defense for their 26th win in the last 31 games.

Rangers 7, Red Sox 2

At Boston, Josh Hamilton had three doubles to take over the major league batting lead and help Texas get off to a quick start in the second half by beating Boston.

Hamilton improved his average to .351 before leaving in the seventh inning with soreness in his right knee.

Nelson Cruz and Vladimir Guerrero also had three hits, and Bengie Molina homered in the six-run first inning to help the Rangers halt a four-game losing streak. Tommy Hunter (6-0) held Boston to five hits before leaving with a 7-2 lead with two outs in the seventh.

J.D. Drew and Bill Hall homered for Boston, which has lost six of its last eight games.

Angels 8, Mariners 3

At Anaheim, California, Erick Aybar and Bobby Abreu drove in three runs apiece, Joel Pineiro won his seventh straight decision as the Los Angeles Angels returned from hosting the All-Star game with an 8-3 victory over the Seattle Mariners.

Howie Kendrick had a run-scoring double for the Angels, who stumbled into the break with eight losses in 10 games, including a 1-6 road trip on which they were outscored 44-14. Los Angeles pounded out 16 hits against the Mariners, with every starter except All-Star cleanup hitter Torii Hunter getting at least one.

All-Star Ichiro Suzuki hit a three-run double and threw out the speedy Aybar at the plate for the last-place Mariners, who have lost 10 of 12.

Vick trustee seeks repayment of millions

RICHMOND, Va. (AP)—The trustee in Michael Vick's bankruptcy case is seeking repayment of at least \$2 million that the NFL quarterback doled out to friends and family members in the months before he was sent to federal prison for running a dogfighting operation.

A complaint filed in U.S. Bankruptcy Court in Newport News says Vick knew his lucrative career was in jeopardy and that he would be facing huge legal bills, yet he continued to shower friends and relatives with gifts and cash. Those assets, trustee Joseph J. Luzinski argues, should have gone to Vick's creditors.

Attorneys for both Vick and the trustee say such filings are not unusual in complicated Chapter 11 cases like Vick's.

"We are not suing Mike Vick or accusing Mike Vick of fraud," said Luzinski's attorney, Ross Reeves. "This is about the proper distribution of assets Vick had before his bankruptcy."

Vick's bankruptcy attorney, Paul Campsen, called the filing

"a garden-variety attempt to collect money." He said Vick fully disclosed the transfers, did nothing wrong and will continue to cooperate with the bankruptcy court.

Vick claimed about \$20 million in debt when he filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection in July 2008, while he was serving a 23-month sentence at the federal penitentiary in Leavenworth, Kan. Last summer, a bankruptcy judge approved a plan that allows Vick to keep \$300,000 of his \$5.2 million salary from the Philadelphia Eagles with the rest going to creditors.

The trustee's complaint seeks reimbursement from Vick's mother, Brenda Boddie; his fiancée and the mother of two of his children, Kijafa Frink; his brother, Marcus; his sister, Christina N. Vick; another relative, Terrance Vick; the mother of his first child, Tameka Taylor; and friends Tommy Reamon and Charles W. Reamon Jr.

"By engaging in the illegal conduct leading to his indict-

ment, the Debtor knew he was engaging in activities certain to pose a threat to his employment and his assets," the trustee's complaint says. That threat became a certainty in April 2007, when Vick learned about the federal investigation, Luzinski wrote.

NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell suspended Vick, who at the time was the starting quarterback for the Atlanta Falcons, shortly before Vick pleaded guilty in August 2007. The commissioner conditionally reinstated Vick in July 2009, a week after Vick was released from federal custody. Vick signed with the Eagles a month later.

Goodell is again reviewing Vick's status after a co-defendant in the dogfighting case, Quanis Phillips, was shot and wounded outside a Virginia Beach nightclub as a birthday party for Vick was ending last month. Authorities have said Vick left shortly before the shooting and was not involved, but Goodell and the Eagles have said they are reviewing the matter.

Cavendish wins Tour stage, Schleck still in yellow

BOURG-LES-VALENCE, France (AP)—Sprint specialist Mark Cavendish won the 11th stage of the Tour de France with help from an illegal head-butt from teammate Mark Renshaw, who was thrown out of the race Thursday for his aggressive tactics.

Andy Schleck of Luxembourg retained the overall race lead, cruising into the finish in the main pack after riding part of the stage while discussing a vacation with his main rival for the title, defending champion Alberto Contador.

The drama of the stage came on the final sprint, when Renshaw—the lead-out man for Cavendish on the HTC Columbia team—head-butted Julian Dean of Garmin-Transitions three times in an apparent bid to push him out of the way. Dean is the leadout man for American sprinter Tyler Farrar, who then appeared to be cut off by Renshaw in the closing meters.

"This is cycling, it's not wrestling," said course director Jean-Francois Pescheux, adding that the violation was "flagrant" and

removing Renshaw from the race was necessary.

"There are rules to respect," Pescheux said.

Cavendish rushed to the defense of Renshaw, claiming Dean attempted to elbow him.

"Mark Renshaw fought to prevent the lane from being closed on him," Cavendish said through a translator on French TV. "He didn't want to be blocked."

Cavendish, from the Isle of Man, won his third stage win in this year's Tour on the 114.6-mile trek from Sisteron to Bourg-les-Valence. Alessandro Petacchi of Italy was second and Farrar third, all finishing in 4 hours, 42 minutes, 29 seconds.

Cavendish said he was pleased with his 13th career stage win at the Tour, but disappointed that his teammate had been sent home.

The stage was mainly flat with only one mid-grade climb, and thus favored sprinters. The general classification didn't change, with all the top contend-

ers finishing in the main pack.

Schleck earned the yellow jersey for a third straight day, while Contador remained 41 seconds back. Fellow Spaniard Samuel Sanchez is third, 2:45 off the lead.

Schleck had a relatively easy day, and even did a bit of chatting in the peloton.

"It was quiet and we can act like normal people," Schleck said through a translator, adding that Contador was a friend and they had gone on vacation together. "So we spoke about—we remembered—our holidays."

The Luxembourg rider finished 65th, and Contador was 40th, with the same time as Cavendish.

Seven-time Tour champion Lance Armstrong, who has already ruled himself out of contention for the title, lost time for the second straight day. He finished in 114th place, 29 seconds behind the main pack, and is 17:51 off the lead in 32nd overall.



TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

MLB STANDING

AMERICAN LEAGUE

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
New York	56	32	.636	—
Tampa Bay	54	34	.614	2
Boston	51	38	.573	5 1/2
Toronto	44	45	.494	12 1/2
Baltimore	29	59	.330	27

Central Division

Chicago	50	38	.568	—
Detroit	48	38	.558	1
Minnesota	46	43	.517	4 1/2
Kansas City	39	49	.443	11
Cleveland	34	54	.386	16

West Division

Texas	51	38	.573	—
Los Angeles	48	44	.522	4 1/2
Oakland	43	46	.483	8
Seattle	35	54	.393	16

NATIONAL LEAGUE

East Division

Atlanta	53	36	.596	—
New York	48	41	.539	5
Philadelphia	47	41	.534	5 1/2
Florida	42	46	.477	10 1/2
Washington	39	50	.438	14

Central Division

Cincinnati	49	41	.544	—
St. Louis	48	41	.539	1/2
Chicago	40	50	.444	9
Milwaukee	40	50	.444	9
Houston	36	53	.404	12 1/2
Pittsburgh	30	58	.341	18

West Division

San Diego	51	37	.580	—
Colorado	49	39	.557	2
Los Angeles	49	40	.551	2 1/2
San Francisco	48	41	.539	3 1/2
Arizona	34	55	.382	17 1/2

Yesterday's Games

Atlanta 2, Milwaukee 1
Chicago Cubs 12, Philadelphia 6
St. Louis 7, L.A. Dodgers 1
San Francisco 2, N.Y. Mets 0
Texas 7, Boston 2
Chicago White Sox 8, Minnesota 7
L.A. Angels 8, Seattle 3

BRITISH OPEN SCORES

ST. ANDREWS, Scotland (AP)—Scores Thursday from the British Open on the 7,305-yard, par-72 (33-36) Old Course at St. Andrews (a-amateur):

FIRST ROUND

Rory McIlroy	33-30-63
Louis Oosthuizen	31-34-65
John Daly	31-35-66
Andrew Coltart	33-33-66
Steven Tilley	32-34-66
Bradley Dredge	33-33-66
Peter Hanson	33-33-66
Marcel Siem	32-35-67
Nick Watney	33-34-67
Lucas Glover	35-32-67
Sean O'Hair	30-37-67
Tiger Woods	32-34-67
Fredrik Andersson Hed	32-35-67
Alejandro Canizares	33-34-67
Y.E. Yang	34-33-67
Lee Westwood	31-36-67
Robert Rock	34-34-68
John Senden	33-35-68
Ross McGowan	32-36-68
Trevor Immelman	33-35-68
Oliver Wilson	32-36-68
Ross Fisher	33-35-68
Camilo Villegas	34-34-68
Ryo Ishikawa	33-35-68
Henrik Stenson	33-35-68
a-Jin Jeong	32-36-68
Shane Lowry	34-34-68
Vijay Singh	35-33-68
Ricky Barnes	33-35-68
Paul Lawrie	36-33-69
Steve Marino	35-34-69
Simon Dyson	34-35-69
Robert Allenby	34-35-69
Hunter Mahan	34-35-69
Ernie Els	35-34-69
Mark O'Meara	33-36-69
Bo Van Pelt	35-34-69
Ignacio Garrido	34-35-69
Robert Karlsson	33-36-69
Dustin Johnson	33-36-69
Paul Casey	34-35-69
Retief Goosen	34-35-69
Edoardo Molinari	35-34-69
Martin Kaymer	35-34-69
Danny Chia	32-37-69

Ryan Moore	35-35-70
Thomas Bjorn	37-33-70
Stewart Cink	35-35-70
Justin Rose	35-35-70
Chris Wood	34-36-70
Darren Clarke	34-36-70
J.B. Holmes	33-37-70
Zane Scotland	34-36-70
Tano Goya	36-34-70
Kyung-tae Kim	32-38-70
Mark Calcavecchia	37-33-70
Kevin Na	34-36-70
Toru Taniguchi	33-37-70
Charl Schwartzel	40-31-71
Tim Clark	37-34-71
Ian Poulter	34-37-71
Jason Day	36-35-71
Kenny Perry	35-36-71
Stephen Gallacher	33-38-71
Hirofumi Miyase	34-37-71
Tom Lehman	34-37-71
Graeme McDowell	37-34-71
Steve Stricker	35-36-71
Sergio Garcia	35-36-71
a-Eric Chun	34-37-71
Thomas Aiken	36-35-71
Heath Slocum	34-37-71
Tim Petrovic	35-36-71
Soren Hansen	37-35-72
Todd Hamilton	35-37-72
Seung-yul Noh	35-37-72
Nick Faldo	36-36-72
Soren Kjeldsen	36-36-72
G.Fernandez-Castano	35-37-72
Yuta Ikeda	34-38-72
Matt Kuchar	34-38-72
a-Byeong-Hun An	35-37-72
Michael Sim	37-35-72
Tom Pernice Jr.	36-36-72
Mark F. Haasstrup	34-38-72
Colm Moriarty	35-37-72
Scott Verplank	36-36-71
Alvaro Quiros	35-37-72
Miguel Angel Jimenez	36-36-72
Adam Scott	36-36-72
Geoff Ogilvy	37-35-72
Zach Johnson	33-39-72
Ben Crane	34-38-72
Brian Gay	35-37-72
Gareth Maybin	36-36-72
D.A. Points	36-36-72
Thomas Levett	35-38-73
Loren Roberts	34-39-73
Bill Haas	35-38-73
Jason Dufner	36-37-73
Alexander Noren	35-38-73
Padraig Harrington	37-36-73
Tom Watson	38-35-73
Mike Weir	34-39-73
Davis Love III	37-36-73
Gregory Havret	35-38-73
a-Jamie Abbott	36-37-73
Tom Whitehouse	35-38-73
Peter Senior	36-37-73
Jeff Overton	35-38-73
Marc Leishman	33-40-73
Luke Donald	37-36-73
Angel Cabrera	37-36-73
Phil Mickelson	36-37-73
Rhys Davies	37-36-73
Richard S. Johnson	35-38-73
Mathew Goggins	35-39-74
Martin Laird	37-37-74
Shunsuke Sonoda	38-36-74
Koumei Oda	35-39-74
Simon Khan	37-37-74
Francesco Molinari	39-35-74
Colin Montgomerie	36-38-74
Bubba Watson	37-37-74
Darren Fichardt	38-36-74
Paul Goydos	36-38-74
Thongchai Jaidee	37-38-75
Phillip Archer	35-40-75
Sandy Lyle	37-38-75
Hirofumi Fujita	38-37-75
Jason Bohn	37-38-75
Kurt Barnes	38-37-75
Josh Cunniffe	36-39-75
Ryuichi Oda	35-41-76
Cameron Percy	35-41-76
Ben Curtis	36-40-76
Justin Leonard	39-37-76
K.J. Choi	38-38-76
Paul Streeter	35-41-76
Jean Hugo	37-39-76
Jae-Bum Park	36-40-76
David Duval	38-39-77
Anders Hansen	37-40-77
Katsurumasa Miyamoto	37-40-77
Jim Furyk	38-39-77
Glen Day	37-41-78
a-Tyrell Hatton	40-38-78
George McNeill	39-39-78
Jerry Kelly	40-39-79
Rickie Fowler	37-42-79
Gary Clark	39-40-79
Simon Edwards	38-41-79
a-Victor Dubuisson	39-41-80
Jose Manuel Lara	40-40-80
Ewan Porter	41-40-81
a-Laurie Canter	41-40-81

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MISTER-LED

From Page 28

did not make the cutoff time then they had to skip the next stage. According to Mister every team missed at least one stage.

“We hit it off great...our pacing was similar [to GEAR10]. They all had fantastic attitudes

and we really had an awesome time,” exclaimed Mister about his first-time teammates.

Mister said that the hardest part of the race was the first trek, where they hiked four miles up hill and gained 3,000 feet.

The race consisted of six stages on Day 1. It started with a mountain biking section followed by the steep uphill trek.

TAN HOLDINGS

From Page 28

both men’s and women’s players, but the women’s division will have two competition—BB and BC categories. Players in the B+ categories must team up with B- players’ pool.

All divisions will use a single round-robin format in the elimi-

nation round. The Top 4 teams will advance to the semifinals with the unbeaten squad getting a twice-to-beat advantage in the playoffs.

Northern Marianas Badminton Association is organizing the doubles tournament through the sponsorship of Tan Holdings.

Meanwhile, NMBA has released the classification list of players.

Hustlers, Fotten Palau sweep rivals



NTT Docomo Utopia Hustlers and USSP

Fotten Palau skunked separate opponents at the continuation of Saipan Billiards Association’s Open 8-Ball Budweiser Cup last Tuesday.

Hustlers took out archrival Jonny’s IT&E Voyagers, 4-0, at Utopia Sports Bar. Erwin Gomez and Senen Pangilinan beat Marc Brian Nelis and Luis Fajardo, 2-1, in the opening doubles match to give the Docomo-backed squad a 1-0 lead.

Jerry Soriano and Boyet Sequioco then gave Hustlers a 2-0 advantage after defeating Jojo Talibong and R.J. Mascarinas, 2-1, in the second doubles match.

Soriano and Erwin Gomez then had their way against Rolly Villanueva and Talibong in the final singles matches, winning in identical scores of 2-1, to complete the sweep.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Utopia NTT Docomo Hustlers players pose with their supporters after winning their game against Jonny’s IT&E Voyagers during their Budweiser Cup game at Utopia Sports Bar last Tuesday.

Fotten Palau matched Hustlers’ feat after also registering a 4-0 sweep against VFW Shark Attack. But what made the win more impressive was that the victory came in an away game at VFW Post 3457.

Taylor Watanabe and Arnel Orbita started the ball rolling with a 2-0 win against Shark At-

tack’s Bern Kileleman and Lee Roy Limes.

Fotten Palau’s John Mongami amd Ron Chisato lost the first game of their doubles match against Patrick Taitano and Bill Limes before winning the last two to give their team a 2-0 lead.

Chisato and Rick Rengiil then shut the door on the VFW-

tion will run from Aug. 1 to 10 and will be played at night at the Asahi Ballfield.

The CNMI Men’s National Basketball Team will leave next on July 27 and will be followed by the CNMI Women’s National Basketball Team and the Commonwealth’s lawn tennis team on July 28. Basketball games at the Palau National Gymnasium will run from Aug. 1 to 10, while tennis competition will take place at the Airai Tennis Courts, also from Aug. 1 to 10.

The CNMI Swimming Team will board a Continental Micronesia flight to Palau on July

29 for the four-day competition (Aug. 2-5) at the Palau National Swimming Pool. Members of the four-man CNMI Table Tennis Team are next, as they leave Saipan on July 30. The table tennis competition will run only from Aug. 3 to 5.

More than 20 athletes from the Northern Marianas Athletics, however, will not make it to opening ceremony, as they are scheduled to leave Saipan for Palau in the afternoon of Aug. 1. A few more members of the CNMI Athletics Team will leave Saipan on Aug. 2.

The CNMI’s representatives

als with 29 points, while Dan Barcinas chipped in 22.

Barbo and Elmer Esdrelon top-scored for MAFEA with 21 points each.

In the first game, Kae Bernardo, Jun Pantaleon, and Dave Sablan led MDX-Chow Queen’s breakaway in the second quarter, while Ivan De Vero picked up where his teammates left off in the third for the squad’s second straight win.

MDX fell behind by a deuce at the end of the first half, 21-23, when Bernardo, Sablan, and Pantaleon combined for 20

points, giving Chow Queen the lead at the break, 51-41.

De Vero then made it a 74-58 lead at the end of the third quarter, as the MDX swingman drilled 11 points in that canto. Bayani-Soul Jaz tried to rally in the fourth, but ran out of time, absorbing its second loss in as many games.

First Game

MDX-Chow Queen 90—I. De Vero 19, Bernardo 16, Sablan 13, Pantaleon 10, Tamayo 7, Aquino 7, Lerio 5, C. De Vero 5, Fitial 4, Demapan 4, Basila 2.

backed team with victories in their singles matchups against Angel Demapan and Ben Norita, respectively.

SBA’s Open 8-Ball Budweiser Cup resumes Tuesday with USSP Fotten Palau taking on sister team USSP Watever at USS Peleliu Club. Team Pirates, meanwhile, will challenge the VFW Sentinels at the VFW Post 3457.

Hustlers take, for their part, will square off against 10/10 Bud Brothers at Jonny’s Bar & Grill, while the 10/10 Home Boys go up against the D’ Pirates Huwa at D’ Pirates Sports Bar.

In other news, SBA’s Budweiser Open 8-Ball League is now accepting sign ups for the Summer and Fall seasons.

The deadline for submission of entries is on Aug. 8 and league matches will commence on Aug. 24. For more information, contact Warlee Ellama at 233-4397 or 285-5967. **(Walter Sutherland)**

in triathlon, spearfishing, and outrigger canoe racing will also be missing the opening rites.

The Commonwealth’s triathletes are leaving for Palau on Aug. 4, five days ahead of competition day, which is Aug. 9. The outrigger canoe races will take place at the Meyuns Seaplane Ramp on Aug. 6 and 7, and the CNMI paddlers will leave Saipan on Aug. 3. The four-man CNMI spearfishing delegation will be on the same flight as the Commonwealth’s triathlon team, but the spearfishing competition will run for two days—Aug. 7 and 8.

Bayani-Soul Jaz 83 — L. Pagarao 24, Inos 17, Lauron 12, Dayrit 10, Santos 7, J. Pagarao 7, Tabora 4, Lansang 2.

Scoring by quarters: 21-23, 51-41, 74-58, 90-83.

Second Game

CNMI Nationals 75 — Iguel 29, Lizama 22, Barcinas 8, Johnson 6, Villacrusis 3, Qian 2, Chariton 2, Naraja 2, Lee 1.

MAFEA-Ali’i Konflikt 65 — Esdrelon 21, Barbo 21, Talania 8, Mendoza 7, Berline 6.

Scoring by quarters: 27-11, 37-26, 55-45, 75-65.

there again in the future. Mister and his teammates also all went home with Suunto wristwatches as a departing gift.

With the Salomon X-Adventure Race under his belt, Mister is looking ahead to possibly organizing a small race back home on Saipan and wants to work on his cycling for the Hell of the Marianas in December.

to conclude the competition.

“The race consisted of a very competitive field who were all very serious about their gear and methodical about their navigation tactics. I may have had the most adventure racing experience on the team, but my teammates had excellent skills as well and I looked to them just as often, especially in the

rafting stage. Two of our team members were whitewater rafting guides on the same river we raced...we nailed that section,” said Mister.

Mister added that everyone over in Japan treated him graciously and that the mountainous terrain of the Minikami area was absolutely gorgeous. He said he would love to compete over

Class A has 14 players in Macoi Aguda, Ferdie Arago, Gary Bandoja, Rey Bulaon, Ed Sikayun, Robert Reyes, Andreau Galvez, Hapi Gabriel, Saul Gargallo, Dick Guinto, Gerri Hibi, Daniel Macario, Lito Mendoza, and Edwin Montoya.

Class B include Obet Aguilar, Mario Diola, Alvin Alvarez, Jorge Olanda, Rommel Catalma, Aries Cordero, James Di-

gno, Rodwealth Espana, Roger Vales, Brad Huesman, Noli Santos, Ezekiel Macario, Paul Navarro, Victor Reyes, Jojo Savellano, and Edwin Maratas.

Class C has Luis Camacho, Roding Domingo, Rob Harrell, Kanata Omori, John Revilla, Raphael Zapanta, Joey Algenio, Carlo Dotimas, Chris Hilario, Puy Macario, Manatsuy Omori, and Jerry Tan.

In the women’s division, Class B+ has Hannah Choi, Angie and Loida Ito, Malou Malasarte, Anna Rose Omori, Marlene Peraja, Cheng Saturno, Cristy Villafior, and Debra Fisher.

Class B list include Lanie Bartolome, Babes Cielo, Ana Alvarez, Shirley Kim, Elma Labuson, Gigi Zapanta, Emily Vargas, Lucelle Lampera, Jaja

Samonte, and Merlie Savellano.

Class C has the most players in the women’s division with 15. They are Armalaine Cabrera, Riza Cano, Elna Curate, Clarissa David, Ruby Gozon, In Sook Heo, Malou Mendoza, Toshiko Obata, Annette Quiambao, Myn River, Lupe Sabino, Irene Santiago, Janine Savellano, Annette Ta, and Merlie Tolentino.



Heyward helps
Jurjens as
Braves beat
Brewers
Page 26

Saipan Tribune Sports

McIlroy rips
through a
defenseless
Old Course
Page 25



28 SATURDAY, JULY 17, 2010

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Tyrone is CNMI flag bearer in Micro Games

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Sprinter and baseball player Tyrone Omar will lead the CNMI Team in the opening ceremony for the 7th Micronesian Games in Palau next month after he was selected as the Commonwealth's flag bearer.

"It's an honor to be selected as the CNMI flag bearer in the Micronesian Games. I am looking forward to leading the CNMI delegation during the opening ceremony," Omar said in a telephone interview with *Saipan Tribune* yesterday.

This was the second time that the 22-year-old sprinter was named the CNMI flag bearer, as he had the same task during the 6th Micronesian Games held here.

Omar and the rest of the CNMI delegation will join more than 1,000 athletes and officials from Kosrae, Chuuk, Pohnpei, Yap, Guam, the Marshall Islands, and host Palau in the opening ceremony at the Palau National Track and Field oval on Aug. 1.

The Commonwealth sprinter and his teammates on the CNMI Athletics Team will not see action until Aug. 3, the first day of competition in throwing, running, and jumping events. Athletics contests will run until Aug. 6.

Omar is entered in his favorite event—the 100m run—the 200m race, and 4x100m relay event. He is aiming to complete the 100m race under 11 seconds. Omar holds the CNMI and Micronesian records in the 100m at

See **TYRONE** on Page 27



Tyrone Omar, second right, was the CNMI's flag bearer during the 6th Micronesian Games on Saipan in 2006 and will have the same task in the 2010 edition of the quadrennial event to be held in Palau from Aug. 1 to 10.

MDX-Chow Queen, Nationals top foes

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

MDX-Chow Queen made it two in a row, while the CNMI Nationals finally broke into the win column in the 2010 United Filipino Organization Inter-Organizational Reinforced Basketball League, following their separate victories last Thursday night at the Garapan Court.

MDX-Chow Queen, which debuted with a 76-70 triumph over the Nationals last week, this time defeated Bayani-Soul Jaz, 90-83, for a strong start in the annual basketball competition. Bayani-Soul Jaz dropped to a 0-2 record.

The CNMI Nationals played in the first game and topped MAFEA-Ali'i Konflikt, 75-65, for the former's first win in the UFO caging. The Nationals played their third game of the week, but their second match against Bayani-Soul Jaz last Tuesday was rained out with the former ahead, 80-71, going into the last four minutes of the game.

Against MAFEA-Ali'i Konflikt, which dropped to a 1-1 record, the Nationals saw their double-digit lead down to five, 52-57, in the early minutes of the fourth quarter. However, Jack Lizama ignited a 10-0 bomb, scoring five straight points to bring order back to the Nationals, 67-52.

See **MDX-CHOW** on Page 27

Mister-led team tops X-Adventure Race

By WALTER SUTHERLAND
walter_sutherland@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

X-Adventure

Tyce Mister and his hastily formed Team Outdoor Japan took first place in the men's division of the 2010 Salomon X-Adventure Race held last July 3 and 4 in Minikami, Japan.

Mister and his teammates—Damien "Grassy" of California, Matt Shewchuk of New York, and Shannon Walker of New Zealand—finished the two-day, 150-kilometer adventure race in about 32 hours.

The race consisted of trekking, mountain biking, canoeing, team biathlon,



rafting, and canyoneering sections.

"We had a great time. We won our division out of the three men's teams, but we placed eighth overall out of 14 teams. We made a couple of minor mistakes that cost us. We missed our cutoff time by three minutes in each case, but that happens. Overall I'm very happy with our performance," said Mister.

The format for the race included cut of times for each race section. If a team

See **MISTER-LED** on Page 27

Tyce Mister, second from left, poses with his first-time teammates of Team Outdoor Japan, as they prepare for the 2010 Salomon X-Adventure Race in the mountainous region of Minikami, Japan.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

The CNMI Nationals' Jack Lizama, right, and MAFEA-Ali'i Konflikt's Darwin Barbo battle for the rebound during their game in the UFO caging last Thursday at the Garapan Basketball Court.

Tan Holdings doubles badminton tilt kicks off today

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Matches in the Tan Holdings Doubles Badminton Competition 2010



will begin today at the REM Center in Gualo Rai.

The weekend tournament, which will run until Aug. 7 and will have its opening ceremony at 5pm, will have competitions in three classes—A, B, and C.

Class A will have two categories, the men's AA doubles and AB, while Class B is for both men's and women's participants. Class C is for

See **TAN HOLDINGS** on Page 27